

New Orleans Seminary Hires Robert Hamblin

Robert L. Hamblin has resigned as pastor of Harrisburg Baptist Church, Tupelo, to become associate professor of evangelism at New Orleans Seminary on August 1.

Hamblin came to the Tupelo church in 1958 from Ellington Baptist Church in Memphis where he served as pastor two years. Earlier pastorates included Garner Baptist Church, Garner, Tex.; Pleasant Grove Baptist Church, Covington, Tenn.; and Grace Baptist Church, Ripley, Tenn.

A graduate of Union University in Jackson, Tenn., Hamblin earned the

bachelor of divinity and doctor of theology degrees from Southwestern Seminary in Ft. Worth, Tex.

He was president of the Mississippi Baptist Convention, 1976-78, and served three years as president of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board in addition to service on the board for 12 years.

Other denominational service has included work on the board of trustees for Clarke College in Newton, Miss.; and for Southwestern Seminary.

During Hamblin's pastorate, Harrisburg Church has doubled in membership to the current 2,500.

The Hamilton, Ohio, native is married to the former Mary Ruth Miller of Ripley, Tenn. They have three children.

Cuban Refugee Aid Effort Gearing Up

By Dan Martin
ATLANTA (BP) — Southern Baptists are gearing up efforts to minister and witness to thousands of Cuban refugees.

"We now have workers at each of the places where the refugees are arriving," Oscar Romo told directors of the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board. "We're replacing the volunteers who went in immediately with people who will remain permanently."

Romo, director of the board's language missions division, is coordinating the relief effort, along with Paul Adkins, director of the department of Christian social ministries. Romo and his personnel will work in relief and

resettlement while Adkins will oversee ministry programs.

"This thing is far larger than anyone expected," Romo said. "The operation (of processing the refugees) has been confusing, but not because of lack of organization or because the workers did not know what to do. It has been confusing because the magnitude of the job was not accurately gauged."

Romo said officials now estimate there will be more than 250,000 refugees by the time the crisis has passed.

"It is possible the camps will be open through Christmas," he added.

Since the trickle of refugees became

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FMB Will Ask Quorum Change, Releases Funds

RICHMOND, Va. (BP) — The Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board voted in May to ask the Executive Committee of the Southern Baptist Convention to recommend a constitutional change and learned that the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for foreign missions has climbed above \$40 million.

The board voted to ask that a better representation of the members of boards, institutions and commissions should be necessary to constitute a quorum for transacting business. Article VI, Section 3 of the SBC Constitution now specifies that nine members must be present to make a quorum.

In the case of the Foreign Mission Board, which has more than 80 members, this nine would be only a little more than 10 percent of the membership.

James Sawyer, chairman of the board's committee on revision of the board's bylaws and constitution, made the recommendation to the board in light of the larger number of board members that agencies now have.

A report for the Lottie Moon offering

indicated it stood at \$40,023,335 or 98.8 percent of the \$40.5 million goal. Books on the offering close at the end of the month. The total given for the 1979 offering was \$35,919,805.40.

Two recommendations for early release of \$74,000 of the funds were approved at the May meeting. The money will be made immediately available for mission vehicles and missionary residences in Uganda.

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Annie Offering Tops The Five Million Mark

ATLANTA (BP) — The Annie Armstrong Easter Offering for home missions is running slightly behind last year, but still has topped the \$5 million mark, William G. Tanner told directors of the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board.

Tanner, executive director-treasurer, said the offering reached \$5,009,872 on May 13, which was nine tenths of a percent, or about \$45,000, behind last year at the comparable time.

"So far, we have received about 35.2 percent of the goal of \$15.5 million, and it's too early to project total receipts. However, we're expecting to be close to the overall goal," Tanner said, noting the slow start for the offering, caused by a massive snow and ice storm which cancelled church services on the first day.

"We are continuing to put our funds in people rather than in property or institutions. In fact, it has been more than 10 years since we have bought property for a mission center," said Tanner.

He added that while the board does operate some institutions, most are in cooperation with state conventions, associations and churches.

"The day may come when the Home Mission Board will solely operate only one or two institutional centers, and they will have national ministries, such as the Sellers Baptist Home and Adoption Center in New Orleans," he said.

The NMB directors approved 54 persons for mission service during their May meeting.

They named three missionaries, 11 missionary associates, eight mission pastor interns, 26 persons who will receive church pastoral assistance, and six persons who will receive language pastoral assistance.

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Southern Baptist Convention To Vote \$90 Million Budget

By Norman Jameson
NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP) — Southern Baptists will consider their largest budget in history when elected messengers convene in St. Louis June 10-12 to examine a \$90 million Cooperative Program proposal.

That \$90 million budget proposal will be the primary source of funding for the mission enterprise of 18 agencies of the Southern Baptist Convention during the 1980-81 fiscal year. It will be derived from the voluntary gifts of 13.4 million members in 35,805 churches.

Agency requests exceed expected resources. Adjusting these differences is the source of annual agony for the 66 men and women of the SBC Executive Committee who must consider the needs of each agency and recommend allocations to the gathered messengers at the annual meeting of the convention.

The annual budgeting process is also the source of concern for the SBC agencies, which depend primarily on the Cooperative Program for their operating funds. This year the Foreign Mission Board has publicly expressed concern over its share.

The Cooperative Program budget goals for distribution of undesignated funds are the result of a 15-month process that begins in July of the previous year with a letter from the executive secretary-treasurer of the Executive Committee asking agencies for their budget requests. In September, the agency executives present their requests to the Executive Committee.

September 1979 requests for the 1980-81 budget totaled \$82,527,677 but projected income from the churches forced the Executive Committee to limit the operating budget to \$74.5 million. The proposed \$90 million budget

goal includes a \$2.5 million capital needs segment and a \$13 million Board Mission Thrust challenge funds.

The detailed agency requests were compiled into a 126-page book and distributed to all Executive Committee members and about 300 other convention leaders. The Executive Committee met for two days in January to hear the agency executives again, to study the needs as they relate to each other and to develop a proposal for consideration by the entire Executive Committee. The proposal was then circulated to Baptist leaders and to the denominational press.

In February the Executive Committee endorsed the budget proposal for presentation to the convention messengers in June. If approved, the budget allocation becomes operative in October, completing the 15-month budget cycle.

In the proposed 1980-81 budget, the Foreign and Home Mission Boards and the seminaries will receive \$67,115,000 or 90.22 percent of the available operating funds. That is an increase over the 89.91 percent they are receiving in the 1979-80 budget. The other 10 agencies share the remaining 9.78 percent.

Seminary students are the primary

beneficiaries of the shift. With an anticipated enrollment increase of 643 in 1980, additional funds for them were considered necessary by the Executive Committee.

Harold C. Bennett, executive secretary-treasurer of the Executive Committee, says the primary problem is that the anticipated receipts are not enough to meet the needs of the agencies as they respond to the mandate of the Southern Baptist Convention to carry out their program assignments.

The Southern Baptist Convention is receiving a smaller percentage of the money contributed by Southern Baptists through their churches. For example, in 1958-1962 churches sent an average of 10.16 percent of their offering plate dollar for state and world missions through the Cooperative Program while in 1974-1978 the average was 8.84 percent. State Baptist conventions keep about 65 percent of that Cooperative Program money and send 35 percent on to the national Cooperative Program.

Total gifts in the churches in 1979 were \$2.1 billion. According to projections, if the churches had maintained the 1958-62 average of giving to the Cooperative Program, the 1980-81

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Cervantes Convention center, foreground, is the site of the 1980 Southern Baptist Convention in downtown St. Louis, June 10-12. The Southern Baptist Pastors' Conference will also be held in the building June 8-9.

Mexico City Seen As Formidable Challenge

By Irma Duke
MEXICO CITY (BP) — How can 7,000 church members reach 15 million people for Christ?

In Mexico City, which many predict will be the largest city in the world by the turn of the century, Baptists are attempting to do it through PRUEBA, a Spanish acronym for a Baptist urban evangelization program there. The program is designed to saturate the city with the gospel in four years.

And that's no small task. Thousands of people are moving daily into this crowded metropolis. One study predicts that by the year 2000 its population will be 32 million — larger than the total population of many Southern Baptist mission fields.

PRUEBA emphasizes witness training for the 7,000 church members, the key to winning these millions to Christ, according to Ervin E. Hastey, associate consultant in evangelism and church development at the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board. Hastey, a former missionary to Panama and Mexico, is associate director of the effort under Jose S. Velez, pastor of Pro-Hogar Baptist Church in Mexico City.

By August, the program calls for 60 percent of the local church members to be trained as active witnesses for Christ. Part of that training, an extensive study of the book of Acts and how the early church witnessed, has just been completed. The training also includes seminars for missions directors.

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Pastors' Conference Seeks To 'Unify and Strengthen'

ST. LOUIS (BP) — The Southern Baptist Pastors' Conference, scheduled here June 8-9 at the Cervantes Convention Center, will aim at providing "a unifying and strengthening influence on Southern Baptists," according to James T. Draper, conference president.

Draper, pastor of First Baptist Church, Euless, Texas, said the conference, which precedes the annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention, June 10-12, will begin at 6:15 p.m. under the theme, "Bold preaching of a Bold Gospel."

He said the Pastors' Conference will be distribute for the first time a printed budget of costs for the meeting before it takes its annual offering for support.

Last year's conference fell \$2,300 short of expenses, a deficit eventually made up by First Baptist Church, Jacksonville, Fla., where last year's Pastors' Conference president, Homer Lindsay Jr., is pastor.

Draper, who said he will personally see that any deficit this year is raised, also announced he has formed a three-person liaison committee to consult with the SBC Executive Committee in on-going decisions about physical arrangements for future Pastors' Conferences. Gerald Martin, presi-

dent of Hannibal-LaGrange College, Hannibal, Mo., chairs the committee, also made up of Don Berry, pastor of Parker Memorial Baptist Church, Aniston, Ala., and Draper.

About nine of the 13 preachers featured at this year's conference have never preached at the Pastors' Conference before, Draper said.

"I wanted to have a very positive and inspirational program with a cross section of preachers," he said. "Most are pastors; others are Bible conference speakers and denominational leaders."

John Bisagno, pastor of First Baptist Church, Houston, will lead off the speakers Sunday night, June 8, with a message on "The Second Coming." Jack Taylor, Bible conference speaker from Fort Worth, will also deliver a message on "Prayer and Awakening." Draper will preside.

The pastors will be welcomed by Rheubin South, executive secretary for Missouri Baptists, and Adrian Rogers, president of the Southern Baptist Convention.

Monday morning the pastors will hear messages by Ralph H. Langley, pastor of First Baptist Church, Huntsville, Ala., on "Christ — My Priest;" Joel Gregory, pastor of Gambrell Street Baptist Church, Fort

Worth, Texas, on "Only Christ Crucified;" George H. Harris, pastor of Castle Hills Baptist Church, San Antonio, Texas, on "What God Wants in Us;" and Richard Jackson, pastor of North Phoenix Baptist Church, Phoenix, Ariz., on "In the Meantime." Larry Lewis, Pastors' Conference vice president and pastor of Tower Grove Baptist Church, St. Louis, Mo., will preside at the Monday morning session.

Messages for the Monday afternoon session, where Draper will preside, will be "Revival Through the Word" by Stan Coffey, pastor, First Baptist

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WMU Annual Meeting Urges Life-Changing Commitments

ST. LOUIS, Mo. (BP) — Harvey Cox, Lottie Moon, Keith Parks and two dozen other names will anchor the annual national meeting of the Southern Baptist Women's Missionary Union, June 8-9, at Kiel Auditorium in St.

Louis. "Life-Changing Commitments," a three-year emphasis of WMU, is the theme for the missions meeting which precedes the annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention, June 10-12, at the Cervantes Convention Center.

"We will miss no opportunity at the meeting to remind Southern Baptists that Bold Mission Thrust (the SBC plan to proclaim Christ to the entire world in this century) will cost dearly in lives and money," said Mrs. A. Harrison Gregory of Danville, Va., president of WMU, the 1.1 million-member auxiliary to the SBC.

"Nothing short of major commitment of self will bring us to a new plateau of mission support," she said. The opening session of the meeting on Sunday, June 8, at 3:30 p.m., will feature a keynote address by Harvey Cox, professor at Harvard University Divinity School.

That session will accent the role of "The Family in Life-Changing Commitments." Others on the program include families who will be interviewed by Evelyn Blount, assistant to the WMU's education division director, about their changes in lifestyles to become involved in missions. They are SBC President and Mrs. Adrian Rogers and family in Memphis, Tenn.; Mr. and Mrs. James Barron and family, missionaries to Ghana; Mr. and

Mrs. Ted Samples and family, missionaries among Indians in Wyoming; and Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert Butler and family of Guin, Ala., who have done volunteer missions projects for the SBC Home Mission Board.

The meeting will also include three sessions on Monday, June 9. The morning session at 9:30 will feature "The Church in Life-Changing Commitment." Alastair Walker, pastor of First Baptist Church of Spartanburg, S.C., and Margaret Perkins, WMU consultant for cooperative ministries with National Baptists, Birmingham, Ala., will speak.

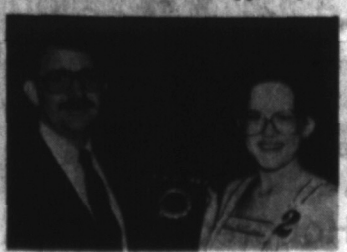
Miss Blount will introduce three women involved in missions through their churches — Mrs. Lanell Saeger, leader of the refugee ministry of Vestavia Hills Baptist Church, Birmingham; Anita Reece of St. Louis, Mo., a student at Southwest Baptist College in Bolivar, Mo., who served as an "Acteens activator" in WMU's missions program for teen-age girls, and Mrs. Gail Linam, a WMU writer who is children's director for Calvary Baptist Church, Waco, Texas.

The afternoon session at 2 p.m. will feature "Great Women and Life-Changing Commitments." Carolyn Weatherford, executive director of WMU, will report on the work of the WMU executive board and other

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Cassie Blackwell Wins First Place In Speakers' Tournament

The Youth Speakers' Tournament, sponsored by the Church Training Department of the Mississippi Baptist



Robin Nichols, youth consultant, state Church Training department, Cassie Blackwell, state winner, Youth Speakers' Tournament.

Convention, was held at Broadmoor Church on May 10. Thirteen older youths arrived before 10:00 a.m. to enter the event.

Topics were chosen from a list presented earlier in the year in a leaflet outlining the tournament. The youths were divided into two groups in which each youth spoke before his or her peers and judges. Two winners were chosen from each group.

The four finalists spoke again before the entire group. The state winner, Cassie Blackwell, Petal-Harvey Church, Petal, spoke on the topic, "You've Got a Friend." Cassie is a sophomore and an active member of her Church Training group.

The other finalists included Buddy

Ross, First, Lumberton; Gene Hammons, Petal-Harvey, Petal; and Christine Thomas, First, Columbus.

The Speakers' Tournament is designed to stimulate growth toward Christian maturity. It helps the youth to think seriously about his Christian commitment and to deepen this commitment. Participation in the tournament also assists the youth in developing skills in expressing his commitment verbally with ease and confidence.

Other speakers who participated were: Judy Davis, Picayune; Joel Emerson, Corinth; Mike Melton, Petal; Dawn Sanders, Corinth; Ron Geiger, Biloxi; Carol Vogel, Petal;

(Continued on page 2)

37 Million Single Adults Represented At Conference

By Oscar Hoffmeyer, Jr.
Associate Editor

Louisiana Baptist Message
Statistics indicate 16 percent of America's households are headed by single parents and 37 million persons between ages of 18-54 are single adults. Speakers at the recent two-state, Deep South Singles Conference at Keener's First Baptist Church, noted singles must look to what they can do for the church and community rather than what the church and community can do for them.

More than 370 persons from Louisiana and Mississippi attended the three-day conference sponsored by Louisiana and Mississippi Baptist Conventions, according to Beau Colle, director of the Louisiana Baptist Convention Sunday School Department. Colle said he had been planning the event for two years.

While the profile of American society is changing to include more singles by choice and singles again, Clark Hensley, director of the Mississippi Baptist Christian Action Commission said, "Sixty-six percent of married person remain married to the same mate."

He reminded those in attendance that many changes will take place in

American society. He predicted that by 1990 more than two million persons will live together and not be married. "And they will not always be the younger ones," he said.

Hensley called for a greater emphasis by the churches to include singles in the program of the church.

"Churches must decide whether to accept divorced persons in the church family and church programs. Some churches treat singles like second class citizens by not allowing them places of leadership," the former pastor said.

Tom Lester, who played the part of "Eb" in the television show "Green Acres" and is a Baptist single, said in a devotional period "It's more important to God for us to do His will than it is important to us."

He urged singles to pattern their lifestyles after God's standards. "Humanism is starting with what is done by man who sets his own standards of right and wrong."

"How neat it is that we can serve God regardless of what the world thinks."

The conference had seven special interest groups on various subjects.

Mrs. Ann Alexander Smith, consultant from the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board in Nashville, in a conference on single parenting, said that "single parent families are formed, not born."

Noting she was a child of divorced parents and also a widow who has remarried, Mrs. Smith counseled singles to "Acknowledge what has happened, have a good grief experience and face reality."

"Don't play games with friends or children."

She said losses are part of life and

reacting to them in a positive way takes less emotional energy than a negative reaction.

Jim Towns, faculty member at Stephen F. Austin University, Nacogdoches, Tex., a Baptist single who has done considerable research and teaching about singles in society, said, in a session on "Sex and the Single Adult" there are only two biblical options for singles: "Commit the natural sex drive to the Lord and put it in storage; and marriage."

He cautioned singles the sex drive was created by God and is a natural part of life but intercourse outside of marriage is a sin.

John Sullivan, pastor of Shreveport's Broadmoor Baptist Church and president of the Louisiana Baptist Convention, reminded singles that "Whatever you're going to do for Christ needs to be done as a single because you're single now."

He noted life has no interims. "Today is what there is and we need to take advantage of it. There is too much talk about what I'm going to do."

Charles Smith, counselor from Nashville, Tenn. and husband of Ann Smith, noted the singles movement is doing a great deal for the church today because it is helping the church to care.

In a conference on adjusting to divorce he said "you should live from the inside out. Do not react to change but respond to it. Regardless what is outside Christ will give strength to live from the inside out."

Following the first evening session, held at New Orleans' First Baptist Church, the group took a riverboat cruise on the Mississippi River and were entertained by several music groups.



State Youth Speakers' Tournament: from left, Buddy Ross, Lumberton; Cassie Blackwell, Petal, state winner; Christine Thomas, Columbus; Gene Hammons, Petal.

Cassie Blackwell

Wins First Place

(Continued from page 1)

Donna Butler, Petal; Lee Hinton, Corinth; Greg Loughlin, Gulfport.

Next year's Speakers' Tournament will be held earlier in the year. The State Tournament participants will be required to speak in their churches and associations before advancing to the state finals. Details will be published in a leaflet available by Oct. 1, 1980, from the Mississippi Church Training Department.

Many of life's most important values cannot be weighed on scales, or even priced.

Missionaries Preach, Cook To The Sound Of Distant Gunfire

MONROVIA, Liberia (BP) — Small arms fire could be heard in the distance as Buddy Woods and Earl Williams, Southern Baptist missionaries, drove into the parking lot of Effort Baptist Church, Monrovia, Liberia, April 13.

Inside, a handful of people were sitting, waiting, expecting. They had risked their lives to come to the only place they could find comfort. Some had already lost loved ones in the military coup that had rocked Liberia the day before.

Woods and Williams gathered the people into a small group near the altar and shared with them James 1:23 (RSV): "Count it all joy, my brethren, when you meet various trials, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness."

One person after another began giving witness to what God had done for him in the previous 24 hours. In that hour, they were reminded of God's love for them and his all-sufficiency.

For Woods and his wife Jody, this was not the first time they had offered comfort in trying times. They are dormitory parents for an MK (missionary kid) hostel in Liberia, and previously held the same job in Zimbabwe. There they provided temporary housing for missionaries evacuating Sanyati Baptist compound following the guerrilla murder of fellow missionary Archie G. Dunaway Jr. in 1978. As

the Zimbabwe missionaries joined them with a smile, open arms and a pot of chili.

While her husband offered comfort to Liberian Baptists, Mrs. Woods helped by doing many of the things she does every day: "You bake cookies, mix kool-aid, arrange a bouquet of flowers and pretend not to hear the chatter of gunfire," she said. "You fix breakfast for MKs who are trying not to worry about their parents in the interior. You plan lunch. You're not sure

how many will have lunch with you. "You greet missionaries coming in from other stations with a smile and a hug and an extra squeeze. You wonder if the extra beds have clean sheets on them. You find things for the children to do to keep them busy."

Because of its location in Monrovia and its large dining and living rooms, Mrs. Woods said the hostel is a logical place for missionaries to gather for supper, to share and just "be a family." And in a time of crisis, that's especially important.

Mills Expresses Optimism After Visit To Liberia

RICHMOND, Va. (BP) — The Liberian Baptist Convention lost many leaders because of the recent government coup, but it has trained leadership capable of continuing work, said a Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board official just returned from Liberia.

John E. Mills, the board's secretary for west Africa, said conditions appeared to be returning to normal and missionaries are optimistic of continuing opportunities for work. He visited Liberia April 25-26 at the conclusion of

a tour of several west African countries.

Mills expects the convention to be able to make adjustments in its program and leadership to cope with changes caused by the assassination of William R. Tolbert Jr., who was president of both Liberia and the Liberia Baptist Missionary and Educational Convention Inc., and by the loss of other Baptist leaders. But he said the convention is having difficulties because all funds are frozen. He does not expect the convention to hold its annual meeting this year.

Missionaries in the Monrovia area told Mills to urge volunteers and new missionaries to come to the country. The new government has indicated it wants foreign help and is trying to protect foreigners during the transition, he said.

A car taken shortly after the coup from Ricks Institute, a Baptist school in Monrovia, was returned the next day by a soldier.

Although the Liberian convention leadership included many Africans of American heritage, Mills says that Baptists also have churches with several African tribes in the country and missionaries are stationed in six centers outside Monrovia.

"The gospel is for all of them and we will continue efforts to establish strong churches everywhere in the country," he said.

Mexico City Seen As Formidable Challenge

(Continued from page 1)

tors, pastors, deacons and other laymen.

Once these people are trained, Mexico City Baptist leaders hope to make the best possible use of their time and abilities through a personnel resource bank. All church members and missionaries have been asked to fill out a form indicating their talents. Leaders are using this information to suggest witnessing assignments and activities.

Another essential part of PRUEBA is its prayer plan. The prayer committee, headed by Southern Baptist missionary Pat Carter, paired every Baptist church in Mexico City with another church in the city, then with another church in Mexico, and then paired off the Mexico City churches with another Baptist church in the world.

Some prayers have already received dramatic answers, according to Hasty. Mexico City Baptist leadership prayed from the beginning that whatever God had in mind for them, they would be flexible and it could be incorporated into their plans and schedules. At that time, they had no idea that evangelist Billy Graham would be speaking in a 50,000-seat soccer stadium rent-free but the details were worked out. Government officials actually moved the date of a

youth concert to give them the stadium when Graham could come.

The Graham Crusade in March 1981 will be followed by a series of simultaneous revivals in the 46 Baptist churches of the city. Simultaneous crusades are also planned for November 1981, with 46 evangelists and 15 choirs from the United States invited to participate. Hasty said he believes 1981 will see the greatest evangelical impact Mexico City has ever experienced.

Mississippi Baptist Activities

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| May 25 | Associational Emphasis Sunday (SBC Emphasis) |
| May 26-27 | Sunday School Teaching & Growth Conference, 7:00-9:30 p.m.
26-FBC, Holly Springs
27-North Oxford, Oxford |
| May 27 | Church Extension Conference, Greenville Assoc. Building, 3-5 p.m. and 7-9 p.m. (CoMI) |
| May 29 | Sunday School Teaching & Growth Conference, FBC, Bruce, 7:00-9:30 p.m. |

Carey's Med Tech Program To Affiliate With New Hospital

The Department of Biology at William Carey College, Hattiesburg, has announced that its Medical Technology program will affiliate with the new Methodist Hospital now under construction.

Ralph Noonkester, president of William Carey, and Bill Ray, administrator of Methodist Hospital, recently

received approval of the proposed affiliation by the respective Boards of Trustees.

The revised program, offering a Bachelor of Science degree in Medical Technology, will enable Carey students to remain in Hattiesburg for clinical internship. Also, local job availability will be increased for graduates in this field.

The pilot program, in conjunction with Methodist Hospital, is scheduled to begin in the Fall of 1980. The curriculum requirements include three and one half years on-campus classroom instruction and a six month hospital internship.

Interested persons should contact the chairman of the biology department or the director of admissions at William Carey College, Hattiesburg, Miss., 39401, (601) 582-5051.

Lambert Named Dean At SBTS

(Continued from page 1)

sumed duties as director of student services.

The former member of First Baptist Church, Jackson, will be responsible for design and administration of programs relating to student life in the seminary community.

She is married to Frank Lambert from Hattiesburg; they have two children, Talley and Will.

Cuban Refugee Aid Effort Gearing Up

(Continued from page 1)

a flood in mid-April, more than 40,000 refugees have arrived in the United States. Most have come aboard a makeshift armada of small boats, called the Freedom Flotilla, which operates between Key West, Fla., and Mariel, Cuba.

An action by President Jimmy Carter is expected to make a large impact on the problem. Carter ordered a halt to the illegal sea lift and has proposed a regulated screening of qualified Cubans to transport in an orderly manner by sea and air.

He said the U.S. will not become a dumping ground for Cuba's criminals. More than 400 persons among the refugees were identified as former criminals and have been isolated at the Tallahassee (Fla.) Federal Correctional Center. Bill Rutledge, Southern Baptist catalytic language missionary in Birmingham, has been working with them.

After arriving in Key West, the refugees are ferried to Eglin Air Force Base, near Fort Walton Beach in the Florida panhandle, and processed. Many, if not most, will go to Fort Chaffee, Ark., in the Ozarks, which also housed thousands of refugees after the fall of Vietnam in 1975.

David Lema, a home missionary and pastor of the Spanish congregation at Williams Boulevard Baptist Church in Kenner, La., has moved into Eglin AFB to oversee Southern Baptist relief efforts. He will work closely with James Monroe and the congregation at First Baptist Church of Fort Walton.

Romo said worship services have been held in Eglin and Bibles in Spanish have been distributed. William G. Tanner, executive director-treasurer of the board, added: "This presents a very important witnessing opportunity to us. I'm very concerned that these people — as they are moved from place to place and are lonely and afraid — will have someone who loves them, is sensitive to their needs, and will share with them the story of Jesus Christ."

(Martin is HMB news editor.)

WMU Annual Meeting Urges Commitments

(Continued from page 1)

"Great Women of WMU Today." Broadman Press and WMU will unveil officially the new biography of Lottie Moon, whose name and story are perpetuated by the Christmas offering which provides more than half the funds for Southern Baptist foreign missions.

"The New Lottie Moon Story" will be reviewed by the author, Catherine B. Allen, assistant to the executive director of WMU, Birmingham. Two descendants of Lottie Moon will be presented — Mrs. William Barry Harmon of Richmond, Va., and Mrs. R. C. Churchill of Crewe, Va.

Special music will be presented by Jane Chu, a concert pianist of Chinese descent, who is a student at Ouachita Baptist University, Arkadelphia, Ark. Special speakers will be Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Barrett, missionaries in Hong Kong.

The session will adjourn into an autograph exhibit and reception at which WMU plans to bring together the largest collection of memorabilia of Lottie Moon ever shown. All Southern Baptist home and foreign missionaries will be honored.

The closing WMU session at 7:30 Monday evening will stress individual action in life-changing commitments.

R. Keith Parks, executive director of the Foreign Mission Board, will be the final speaker, along with Mr. and Mrs. Dale E. Beighle, foreign missionaries in Bophuthatswana.

FMB Votes To Ask Quorum

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The board, in a continuing effort to make the best use of funds, voted to sell nine missionary properties in order to make different housing purchases and arrangements or use the funds for other capital needs. In one transaction in Santiago, Chile, a missionary residence was traded for another house of equal size plus \$150,000 offered to the board by a company which had commercial uses for the property. The additional money was put back into housing funds for Chile.

A total of \$78,000 was appropriated for evangelism and church development projects including \$30,000 for major cities in Korea. In the last three years, \$150,000 has been appropriated for the major city evangelization program in Korea.

Home Board Urges ERISA Amendments

ATLANTA (BP) — Directors of the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board expressed alarm about "excessive government entanglement in the missions of the Southern Baptist Convention."

The action, directed toward members of the U.S. Congress, focused alarm on the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA) and related decisions and interpretations.

Those decisions and interpretations by the Internal Revenue Service and the Treasury Department would exclude missionaries and other denominational workers from retirement plans administered by the SBC Annuity Board. The Home Mission Board alone has 3,000 missionaries under appointment.

The board, noting amendments to ERISA proposed by U.S. Sen. Herman Talmadge, D-Ga., urged concerned persons to contact congressmen to support the "Talmadge church plan ERISA amendments to Senate Bill 1076 in conference committee and in the floor votes." Sens. Lloyd Bentsen, D-Texas, and David Boren, D-Okla., are co-sponsors with Talmadge.

By urging amendments, the Home Mission Board joins more than 27 other religious denominations in the U.S. who are concerned about the issue and have formed the Church Alliance for Clarification of ERISA.

"The essence of the matter is that the IRS has defined certain organizations and entities of the church are not part of the church," said Gary Nash, general counsel for the Annuity

Board. "The traditional legal definition of the church means the whole church; the whole SBC and everything it does. But the IRS and the Treasury Department are narrowing the definition so that it means the local church on the corner and only that."

The interpretation, seen as a back door way of entanglement in the mission of the church, "is having and will have a disturbing and adverse impact on the missions of the Southern Baptist Convention," the resolution said.

Seeks To Unify And Strengthen

(Continued from page 1)

Church, Albuquerque, N.M.: "A New Testament Strategy for Reaching People" by Bailey Stone, pastor of First Baptist Church, Odessa, Texas; and "Victory is Ours" by Grady C. Cothen, president of the Sunday School Board, Nashville, Tenn.

Officers will be elected during the Monday afternoon session.

The final session Monday night will feature messages by Roy Fish, professor of evangelism at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, on "Let's Major on the Major;" William G. Tanner, executive director of the Home Mission Board, Atlanta, Ga., on "Honorable Vessels;" Bailey Smith, pastor of First Southern Baptist Church, Del City, Okla., on "A Babbiling Preacher and a Strange Gospel;" and W. A. Criswell, pastor of First Baptist Church, Dallas, Texas, on "Old Time Religion."

Jack Price, evangelistic musician from Garland, Texas, will coordinate conference music and provide special music. Other performers are the Bill Gaither Trio; Gary Floyd, Conroe, Texas; Cynthia Clawson, Houston, Texas; First Baptist Church Choir, Jackson, Miss.; Lonnie Parsons, San Antonio, Texas; Richard Bradford, Albuquerque, N.M.; Russell Newport, Springfield, Mo.; First Southern Baptist Church Choir, Del City, Okla.; the Stone Brothers, Rome, Ga.; First Baptist Church Choir, Dallas, Texas; and Jim Davis, Tulsa, Okla.

Refugee Camps In Pakistan Called "Worst"

KARACHI, Pakistan (EP) — Larry Ward, president of Food for the Hungry International, issued a terse summation of the refugee situation here after touring camps all along the Afghanistan border. His appraisal: "one of history's worst refugee crisis."

The veteran relief/development executive added:

"There are over 688,000 Afghan refugees here in Pakistan at present, could easily exceed one million in the next few weeks." Mr. Ward reported that his organization projects a minimum budget of \$100,000 over the next six or eight months."



Hudgins Honored

W. Douglas Hudgins (right) was honored recently at First Baptist Church, Jackson, on the 55th anniversary of his ordination to the gospel ministry. Hudgins is executive secretary emeritus of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board and pastor emeritus of First Church, Jackson. Presenting Hudgins and his wife with a certificate is Schuyler Batson, associate pastor of the church.

Kellogg Gives Grant To Child Care Group

A grant of \$100,000 over a three year period has been awarded to the National Association of Homes for Children, Charlotte, N. C., by the W. K. Kellogg Foundation of Battle Creek, MI, to implement a national system of accreditation for residential child care agencies.

According to Peter Ellis, a program director of the W. K. Kellogg Foundation, the funds are earmarked for training the large number of professionals who will be involved in the accreditation review effort. Curriculum materials will be developed and training workshops held in various parts of the country. When fully implemented, the accreditation system will be available to any of the 2,000 not-for-profit child care agencies in the United States.

National Association of Homes for

Children is a professional organization of voluntary, not-for-profit homes for children and child care agencies in America. Several child care agencies in Mississippi are charter members of NAHC, including The Baptist Children's Village, Methodist Children's Home, and Palmer Children's Home in Columbus. Paul N. Nunnery, Executive Director of The Baptist Children's Village, the official child care agency of Mississippi Baptist Convention, serves NAHC both as Legal Counsel to its Executive Board and as Secretary of the national organization. Nunnery was a member of the organizing and steering committee whose work led to the formulation of NAHC a number of years ago.

The Beatitudes blossoms in this life, but mature in the life to come. — William Nimmo



Bible drill winners are; left to right: Kim Dykes, Southside, Greenville; Teresa O'Neal, Friendship, Grenada; Robin Nichols, youth consultant, Church Training department, Jackson; Adrian Fairchild, Central, Brookhaven.

Bible Drill Winners Will Go To Glorieta, Ridgecrest

In Youth Bible Drill, youths learn many scriptures, and learn how to use the Bible and store its truth in their hearts.

The 1980 State Youth Bible Drill culminated on May 10 at Broadmoor Church, Jackson, after five state-wide selection tournaments. Youths must have four mistakes or less to qualify for the semi-final drill. Forty-nine (grades 7-9) arrived in Jackson for the

semi-final and final drill. Six groups were judged, declaring two winners from each group.

The twelve finalists were judged in the final drill, deciding the two state winners. The winners will represent Mississippi at Ridgecrest and Glorieta Baptist Conference Centers. Speed was added to accuracy as a basis of judging the final drill.

Teresa O'Neal, Friendship Church, Grenada, will represent Mississippi at Ridgecrest. Adrian Fairchild, Central, Brookhaven, is the Glorieta representative, and Kim Dykes, Southside, Greenville, is the first alternate.

Second Bus Is Lined Up For Senior Adult Tour

Demands for space on the Senior Adult Glorieta Chautauqua Tour have been so great that a second bus has been committed. Both buses already have their minimum load but each can take four additional persons which means that a total of eight spaces remain to be filled.

The tour departs from the Baptist Building, Jackson, on Wednesday, September 17, and returns Saturday, September 27. Plans call for overnight visits at Fort Worth, Big Springs, El Paso, and Wichita Falls, Texas, and Albuquerque, New Mexico. Four nights will be spent at Glorieta Baptist Conference Center near Santa Fe.

The Chautauqua is planned by the Senior Adult Section of the Family Life Department of the Baptist Sunday School Board. The tour is under the direction of Kermit S. King, Senior Adult Consultant for Mississippi, who will be assisted by Jim Blakeney of Biloxi, George Caldwell of Gulfshores, and David Rogers of Greenville.

Detailed itineraries of the tour are available from Senior Adult Ministries, Box 530, Jackson, Miss., 39205.

Seminary Staffers On Faculty, For CT Leadership Retreat

Two Southwestern Seminary staff members will serve as faculty for the Church Training Leadership Retreat at Gulfshore, June 26-28. Nita Stewart, dean of women and director of student activities, will conduct a conference for workers with children in Church Training. Hazel Morris, assistant professor of childhood education, will lead the training for preschool workers.

The leadership retreat is planned for all Church Training workers, including a special section for associational officers. A special conference for work with special education is also featured on the program. The retreat will begin with dinner on Thursday, June 26, and conclude with lunch on Saturday, June 28.

Miss Stewart is a former associate with Mississippi Church Training having been a specialist in Junior and Intermediate work in the department between 1953 and 1960. Her work also has included several years as consultant with the Sunday School Board, Nashville. She has been in her present position for over ten years.



Stewart Morris

Miss Morris went to her teaching position at Southwestern by way of Mississippi. Prior to moving to Fort Worth, she was on the staff of First Church, Jackson. She is a native of Gray Hawk, Ky. and received her undergraduate education at Eastern Kentucky State University.

Reservations for the Church Training Leadership Retreat may be obtained by writing to Gulfshore Baptist Assembly, Henderson Point, Pass Christian, MS. 39571. The total cost of the retreat is \$38.50. Fifteen dollars of this amount must be sent with the request for reservation.



State Men Lead Crusade In Bahamas

These Mississippians are in the Bahamas this week on a 10 day revival crusade (May 18-25) working with Southern Baptist Missionary Regional Hill. The trip was put together by Dick Brogan for the Foreign Mission Board. Brogan is president of Mississippi Baptist Seminary. Pictured left to right are David Grimsley, minister of music, Highland Church, Vicksburg; Raymond Bell, minister of music, Woodville Heights Church, Jackson; J. T. Pannell, pastor, Central Church, Brandon; Hickman Johnson, pastor, Farish Street Church, Jackson; and H. L. Buckley, pastor, Cades Chapel Church, Jackson.

30 Go To Gulfshore For Chaplains' Retreat

The Mississippi Baptist Chaplains Association held its first Spring Retreat May 2-3, at Gulfshore Baptist Assembly. There were 30 in attendance — chaplains, their wives, Ray Grissett from the Cooperative Missions department and Huey Perry, director of Institutional Chaplaincy, Home Mission Board.

Perry was the retreat leader and spoke on "The Person and Role of the Chaplain" and on "The Chaplain and the Ministry of Preaching."

Perry said that the chaplain has a unique ministry in that he ministers to people (normally away from home and local church) who are inmates in a correctional institution, patients in a hospital, military personnel in the armed forces, employees on the job and others.

He said that the chaplain's primary concern is to bring persons to experience reconciliation with God and with

themselves so that they might live meaningful lives in society — institutional, military, job environment, or in society as a whole.

Perry indicated that chaplains often fail to give their preaching ministry the high priority it deserves. In doing so he said, they fail to proclaim the Good News of God's grace, forgiveness and spiritual strength to the people whom they serve.

He said that monological preaching often has little or no practical application to the people in the congregation. He went on to say that dialogical preaching — preaching that deals with real life situations and opens the door to more personal relationships — is the kind of preaching our Lord is calling us to do. He said that "the effectiveness of our sermons" can often be measured by "the number of persons who seek us out" for personal guidance during the following week.

Committee Now Accepting Nominations For Boards

The Committee on Nominations is receiving recommendations for membership on the boards of the several colleges, according to the chairman, P. A. Michel.

Recommendations for such memberships should be supported by detailed information as indicated on personal data forms which may be obtained from the Chairman of the Committee on Nominations.

All recommendations should be received by the Chairman of the Committee on Nominations not later than 60 days prior to the annual convention. The chairman this year is P. A. Michel, Box 589, Brookhaven, MS. 39601.

Criteria should include the following factors:

- (1) All nominees for the position of trustee of a Mississippi Baptist College should be members in good standing of a Baptist Church cooperating with the Mississippi Baptist Convention.
- (2) All members of Boards of Trustees should be individuals who believe wholeheartedly in the program of Christian higher education as promoted by Mississippi Baptists, and should have demonstrated loyalty to, or support of, the college to be served.

(3) Nominees should be college graduates or persons of demonstrated intellectual attainments, and should have gained recognition as leaders in their professions or occupation.

(4) Final selection should be made so as to include no more than seven nor less than four pastors for each college.

(5) Final selections should provide a broad geographical representation on the board of each college.

(6) Final sections should provide a broad spectrum of professional and business capability.

(7) Final selections should be made so as to maintain at all times a substantial number of graduates or former students of the college for which nominations are made.

Bennett Named Chairman Of Committee

CHICAGO (BP) — The search committee seeking an executive director for the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs named Harold C. Bennett as chairman in a meeting in Chicago.

Bennett, executive secretary-treasurer of the Executive Committee of the Southern Baptist Convention, said the committee hopes to have a nominee to present to the Oct. 6-7 meeting of the Baptist Joint Committee in Washington.

Grady C. Cothen, president of the SBC Sunday School Board, previously headed the search committee, but resigned from the committee because of ill health. William G. Tanner of the SBC Home Mission Board replaced Cothen on the committee.

James E. Wood Jr., current chief executive of the Baptist Joint Committee, has resigned effective May 31, to resume a teaching post at Baylor University. Porter W. Routh, retired executive secretary-treasurer of the Executive Committee, will serve as interim leader of the Washington-based agency until a successor is picked.

Bennett, who said the committee already has 28 names under consideration, urged that no more names be contributed after June 1 to give the committee adequate time for proper and prayerful deliberations.

Words of comfort, skillfully administered, are the oldest therapy known to man. — Louis Nizer



Hudgens Signs Pledge

Billy Hudgens, seated, consultant in the Sunday School Department of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board and president of the Mississippi Baylor Club, signs his pledge card as part of a Mississippi minimum goal of \$30,000 in five years that the club has adopted for a scholarship fund. The \$30,000 will be used to fund the "Baylor Alumni and Friends of Baylor Endowed Academic Scholarship," which will be a part of Baylor's \$100 million Profile '85 goal. The Mississippi scholarship funds will be designated for Mississippi students who are enrolled at Baylor and will be awarded by a scholarship committee at the school. With Hudgens is Charlie Jones of the Baylor Development office.

Thursday, May 22, 1980

BAPTIST RECORD PAGE 3

You Can Make Money Serve You

By Guy Henderson, Consultant Stewardship Department

From now until the day you die, there will be a need for money management. It is not optional. The choice is not whether to manage it or not, but it is between effective and ineffective management. We all need to learn more of wise money handling and glorify our Lord in our stewardship.

Just think how much time we use in teaching our children how to earn money and how little time in teaching them how to spend it wisely. Our teenagers today are the wealthiest group of teenagers in all of history. They live in an affluent society and see little or no need to save.

Young adults assume a "take it for granted" attitude. Add the lust for more consumer goods, astronomical inflation, and excess credit use, and the painful picture comes into focus.

Money management is a tool, not a magic cure-all. It will enable a person or family to back off and look at their financial profile. Simple tools can be brought to bear on the problem areas. Where is my money going? How much is for necessities? How will I ever get out of debt? Stretching dollars, battling inflation, paralyzing prices — all become part of the planning.

Money management will not solve all your financial woes. It will help to

pinpoint leaky wallets and suggest ways to overcome this. It will also improve your understanding of and attitude toward material possessions.

You can learn to make money your servant rather than allowing it to become your master. As Christian stewards, we must confront this problem in light of biblical teachings.

The Bible teaches that material possessions are essential to man's livelihood and are to be enjoyed. We come to recognize God as the owner and that we are placed as managers over His possessions. A Christian life-style that is God-honoring is required for true contentment.

How can I participate in a Money Management Conference? Perhaps your church can sponsor it. Sunday School classes, Brotherhood or WMU groups could lead out. In fact, you can have the conference in your own family. Read the suggested books, work through the Christian Family Money Management booklet, and discuss the issues at hand. (The list of books and the booklets can be provided by your Stewardship department.)

The big thing is to do it. It takes planning, cooperation, and determination and will be on the road to wise money management. Your Stewardship department is ready to assist in materials, programs, or suggested leadership.

Hitt, McCaleb, King To Teach Church Musicians

Three Mississippians will lead sessions for volunteer and part-time music directors at the Church Music Leadership Conference at Gulfshore on July 24-26. This annual training retreat for all church musicians is sponsored by the Church Music department, Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, Dan C. Hall, director.

Gwen Hitt, music director at Big Level Church in Wiggins, will coordinate the sessions. Mrs. Hitt also serves as an area clinician in children's music with the Church Music department.

Jimmy McCaleb, minister of music at Thirty-Eighth Avenue Church in Hattiesburg, will lead some of the sessions. McCaleb and Dan C. Hall co-authored Church Music R.F.D., a practical music manual for pastors and music workers of smaller churches.

Joe King, minister of music at Carey Chapel Church in Red Banks, will also assist. King was instrumental in forming the Northwest Ministers of Music Association. He currently serves as its first president.

Topics to be covered in these sessions include: worship service planning; music ministry organization; calendar planning; song leading techniques; and easy music for soloists, duets, trios, quartets, and choirs. Worship services, other special interest classes, and recreation/free time will complete the schedule for the conference which will center on the theme, "Christ Is Lord."

Registration will begin at 10 a.m. on Thursday, July 24. The conference will conclude with lunch on Saturday, July 26. Cost for the conference will not exceed \$58.00 (rates vary with type of accommodations). Child care will be provided during daytime conference sessions.

For further information concerning the conference, contact Dan C. Hall, director, Church Music department, Box 530, Jackson, Miss. 39205. reservation requests should be sent directly

to Gulfshore Baptist Assembly, Henderson Point, Pass Christian, Miss. 39571, and should be accompanied with a \$15.00 deposit per person age two and up.

May Meeting Will Focus On Language Work



McLemore Webb

A Language Missions Leadership Conference will be held May 23-24 at 38th Avenue Church, Hattiesburg, according to an announcement by Richard Alford, language missions consultant, Cooperative Missions Department, Mississippi Baptist Convention Board.

Program personalities, and conferences they will lead, are: Rodney Webb, director of multi-ethnic ministries in the language missions division of the Home Mission Board, Atlanta, and former employee of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board — "Cross-Cultural Communication"; Rafael Melian, language missions programs leader, Louisiana — "Hispanic Cultural Orientation"; James McLemore, pastor of 38th Avenue Church, Hattiesburg — "New Testament Basis of Language Missions"; Mrs. Linda Walters, member of 38th Avenue Church — "Conversational English"; Norman Rodgers, consultant, state Church Training department, — "Church Training in Ethnic Churches."

The conference is for all language leaders, pastors, and missionaries in Mississippi.

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B22

The Baptist Record

OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION

Editorials

At Mississippi College . . .

Concert cancellation is commendable

Many times the basic decisions made by the administration of one of our colleges go unnoticed because there is no attention called to them. These decisions often are indicative of the effort to maintain a Christian environment on the campuses.

The recent decision at Mississippi College to cancel the concert of a rock music group is a case in point. Perhaps this decision, too, would have gone unnoticed were it not for the fact that a few of the students made it a matter of a mild protest, and a few statements of protest were carried in the last issue of the year of the college paper. From these sources the local city newspaper picked up the story.

Though this sort of concert is not the usual fare on the campus, the students had asked for such a group as a part of their final spring activities. Their request was granted.

Somewhere along the way, however, it was discovered that a member of the group had in the past taken a stand in favor of the gay rights movement. This discovery caused the administration to realize that such a group was not the sort that the college could afford to endorse by having it on the campus. As thoughts were being formulated as to how to deal with the situation, it was discovered that there had been no con-

tract signed by either party. The concert was cancelled immediately.

Mississippi College President Lewis Nobles and other members of the administration at the college are to be commended for this decision. The cancellation was not universally acclaimed on the campus, though those who participated in any kind of protest were few. Sometimes, of course, students are able to sway the opinions of their parents. Mississippi Baptists, however, need to know that the president saw the possibility of danger in such a concert; and he called it off.

The concert could have gone on, and perhaps not much would have been said. Certainly the students who have agreed with the administration's action would not have protested had the concert been allowed to take place.

Once the fact of gay rights support became known, by administration members, however, the administration knew that it could not lend its support to the concert by allowing it to happen.

Surely Mississippi Baptists should applaud Dr. Nobles and his staff and express their appreciation. Parents particularly can appreciate such forthright action in consideration of their children.

As the Baptist Record contacted Mississippi College in relation to the incident, some very interesting material came to light.

Generally, Mississippi College students are not run-of-the-mill types. A report by the Cooperative Institutional Research Program, a joint effort of the American Council on Education and the University of California at Los Angeles, had some interesting statistics regarding the students of Mississippi College. It was found that MC enrolled a higher percentage of students with high school grade point averages of "A" than the average Protestant college in the United States. MC had 16.3 percent while the average was 11.3 percent. Also it was reported that 55.9 percent of the MC students ranked in the top one-fifth of their high school graduating classes compared with the national average of 48 percent.

At MC 24.2 percent of the students attended the college on the advice of someone else who attended while the national average was 17.4 percent.

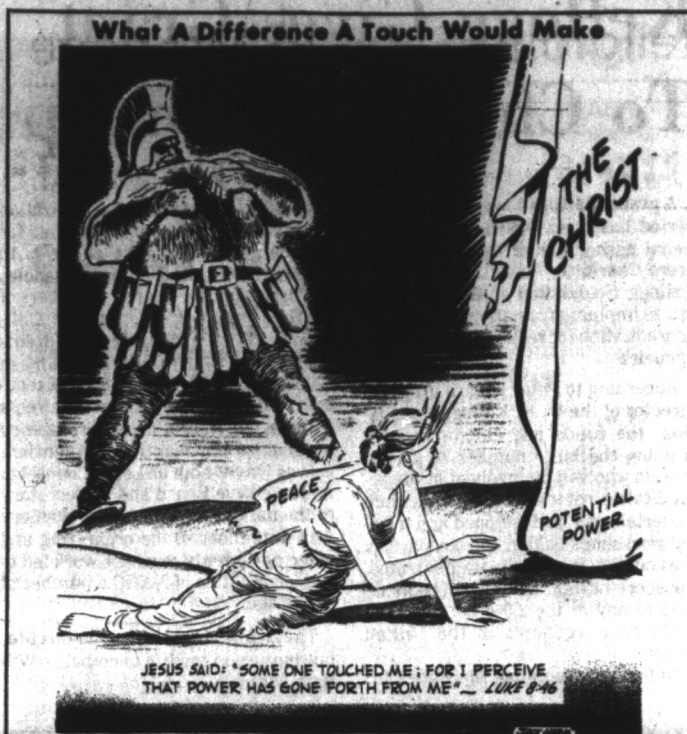
In a comparison of attitudes on current issues, 73 percent of the MC students felt there are too many rights for criminals, compared with the national average in Protestant colleges of 63.5

percent; only 28.5 percent at MC believed that abortion should be legalized compared with 46.8 percent; 11.3 percent at MC believed that people should live together before marriage compared with 29.8 percent; 10.8 percent at MC believed that marijuana should be legalized compared with 31.2 percent; and 79 percent at MC believed that homosexual relations should be prohibited compared with 53.6 percent.

Now there may be those who think the percentages should be even better, but it must be remembered that these are attitudes that were formulated before the students arrived on the campus. And we are supposing that because these young people to a great extent are the children of Mississippi Baptist families, the attitudes on the other Baptist campuses in the state would be as wholesome.

We commend our Baptist educators, and particularly applaud President Lewis Nobles and the administration of Mississippi College for their determined stand in this concert cancellation.

Attention is called to a statement of principles at Mississippi College by President Nobles that is to be found on this page.



Faces And Places

By Anne Washburn McWilliams

The First Time I Saw Jackson

The clouds were thick and the plane (not a jet) kept flying in circles over the airport, but eventually we landed at Hawkins Field. It was April, 1953, and I was arriving in Jackson for the first time. I spent the night at the Walthall Hotel, and went to First Baptist Church to hear Dr. Hudgins preach. An education wing and a chapel were under construction there. A month later, May 20 — 27 years ago — I began work for the Baptist Record.

How different the Jackson of now, from the Jackson of then. In spite of the differences, the warmth of the people remains the same, and I feel at home now, as I immediately did then.

On my first visit to Jackson, the Baptist Record editor, A. L. Goodrich, took Eleanor Smith and Doris Wiggins and me to lunch at the Robert E. Lee Hotel. Other places I liked to eat that first summer were the Rotisserie, the Old Southern Tea Room (was it on Amite or Yazoo Street?), the Jitney Jungle Cafeteria downtown next to Kennelington's, and the lunch counter at H. L. Green's (where Deposit Guaranty Plaza is now).

The Baptist Building was on the corner of Mississippi and Congress. The city library, a red brick building, was across from it, where the Methodist Building stands. St. Dominic's Hospital was on the corner of President and Amite, where the Baptist Book Store is.

Searching for a place to live, I heard about a boarding house at 418 High St., in the vicinity of the present Justice Building. I went to investigate, and spent one night in the enormous old house where people sat rocking and talking on the wide front porch. Some of the boarders ate at the White House next door, at a revolving table. Nelda Trigg, Dr. Quarles' secretary, had lived at 418 High and said she liked it. I told the landlady at 418 that I'd rent a room, but when I got there after work the second day she had rented my room to someone else. I called Mrs. Rackley at 218 North State St., a house between WCA and the Standard Oil Building, which accepted women boarders only. She said she had one room available, on the second floor.

That first month in Mississippi, I was meat for many hungry mosquitoes. The room was not air-conditioned, so I opened the window. Every night I fought and scratched until I discovered the hole in the screen where mosquitoes were fleeing from the barrel of water at the service station below. Then Ruth Everett of New-

ton moved in to share my room and rent. She was enrolled at Draughon's Business College (over Hemphill Drug Store at Capitol and State). During a parade downtown one day, somebody accidentally knocked a block of wood off a second-story windowsill, and it hit Ruth on the head. The doctor feared she might have a concussion, and didn't want her to sleep that night, so I stayed up all night trying to keep her awake.

Soon she and I moved to 208½ North St., where we got one bedroom, a kitchen and hall for \$35 a month. Out the back window we could see the fairgrounds. We walked down the steep hill over the railroad track to a little grocery store on Jefferson at Amite. I remember only one word about that apartment. Hot. One good thing, though. While I was living there, Ruth and Madie Sanborn (Lang) introduced me to W.D.

The next year I rented a room at Miss Mattie Bailey's elegant old home, next door to the Willard Bonds. (The two houses stood where the Sillers Building is now.) Miss Mattie's father was T. J. Bailey, editor of the Baptist Record, 1899-1912. Miss Mattie's living room furniture was upholstered in black leather, if I remember correctly, and she had lots of interesting old books. One night Miss Mattie and I walked down to Central High to see a production of "Brigadoon."

I shopped at Emporium, and sometimes walked as far as McRae's at Capitol and Roach. Key Drug was next to the Krystal. I swam in Livingston Lake beside the zoo. There was a tall slide you could zoom down to land in the water. Remember? No coliseum. At the state fair, we sat on wood bleachers and watched a unicycle act on an outdoor stage. Our YWA at First Church picnicked on the Natchez Trace at a spot now covered by the reservoir.

Remember the Royal Theater on Capitol Street? and the Joy? Where the Baptist Building parking lot is now, there used to be an antique shop and a school for children with cerebral palsy. Where I am sitting right now, there used to be a two-story white house. But the magnolias outside my window have not changed, except for growing taller. They are covered as in May of 1953, with creamy blossoms.

Places change, and faces change, but there is One who does not change:

Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and today, and forever (Hebrews 13:8).

Which commentary? . . .

Back to Uniform Lesson in July

For about a year now the Baptist Record has alternated Sunday School lesson commentaries between the Uniform Series and the new Bible Book Series. We are seeking to determine the amount of interest there is in each.

For some years, since the introduction of the Life and Work Series, the Baptist Record has carried both the Life and Work Series and the Uniform Lesson Series commentaries. Now we

third has been introduced.

We seek to serve the best interests of our readers. If we must present commentaries on all three series to do that, that is what we will do. If one of the three is not used to any great extent in Mississippi, then we will try to determine which are the two favored series and run commentaries on them.

Our readers can help us greatly to determine this information. Please let

us know what you prefer.

With the illness of Joe Triplett early this year, the Baptist Record changed the commentary from the Uniform Series to the Bible Book Series because J. Roy McComb, pastor of First Church, Columbia, was already doing a commentary on the Bible Book Series. We felt it was an opportunity to give readers an additional opportunity to see comments on this series. Dr.

McComb had done such a commentary earlier in the Baptist Record.

In July we will return to the Uniform Series with Jack Glaze, chairman of the Division of Religion at Mississippi College, as the commentator. The Life and Work Series comments will be written by Bobby Perry, pastor of First Church, Moss Point.

Guest Opinion . . .

Change within the unchanging

By Lewis Nobles, President Mississippi College

In this part of the world, Mississippi College is comparatively old; it came into existence only nine years after Mississippi became a state in the Union. Some critics today would say that not only is she old but that she is old-fashioned! Indeed, the basic principles for which this institution stands are old. They were proclaimed almost 2,000 years ago but are indeed older than 2,000 years. We believe they are eternal; that they are truths which existed from the beginning and are related to the eternal Creator who is the same yesterday, today, and tomorrow. This aspect of MC is unchanging and is the chief reason that this institution has been sponsored by Mississippi Baptists for 130 years.

We believe in an infinite, eternal, omniscient God as revealed in His Son, Jesus Christ, through whom we are offered salvation. We believe in a personal God who created man uniquely in his own image; a God who has an inalienable and infinite compassion for every man, and in whose sight each of us is of inestimable value.

At institutions like MC we may study the history, sociology, economics, languages, art, anatomy—to name only a few—of man, but man is worth studying only because of his special and un-

ique relationship with God. We believe that God has a will and a purpose for man and that these are embodied in the Great Commandment to worship God with all thy heart, soul, and mind, and to love thy neighbor as thyself and in the Great Commission to go forth and teach and baptize in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

We believe that there is a divine "stamp of approval" on personal integrity, morality, and responsibility; upon respect, compassion, and concern for our fellowman; and upon justice, courage, and freedom. We recognize that there must be a constant search for proper and effective implementation of these with differences of opinion thereon, but we regard the basic principles as immutable.

We know that there are many in the world who do not believe in our God, in His special concern for man, in man's unique nature, or in God's purpose and will for man. But, just as the son of Madelyn O'Hair recently renounced his part in the plot that took prayer out of our public schools and in doing so demonstrated God's redeeming grace, we hold this to be the essence of our faith. We know that many in our times have doubts as to these principles, but that does not ever stand in the way of MC standing on these as eternal and unchanging truths.

Today there are many points of tensions among evangelicals: ecumenical relations, social ethics, biblical criticism, the charismatic movement, women's ordination, strategies of

evangelism, applications of behavioral sciences to the church, etc. There are those who openly claim that there are no eternal unchanging truths, that such truths are relative and changing with the time, place and people; and that all questions remain forever open. By their position, the search for truth on every point is endless. Many in this camp openly quote our Lord when he said, "Ye shall know the truth and the truth shall make you free." To many of them, without knowing it, this is truth lifted out of context; and as in most cases, when removed from its context it has a much different meaning. The full text is found in John 8:31-36. Our Lord was talking about eternal spiritual truth which frees men from the slavery and burden of sin.

Letters To The Editor

Itawamba Campus Revival

Editor:

We have had an unusual spiritual awakening at Itawamba Junior College. During a four night meeting on the campus, we had 162 decisions for Christ. Prior to the crusade, the students, through a witnessing program, had 27 decisions for a total of 129, of which 15 were professions of faith and 114 recommitting their lives to the Lord.

We are seeing some good results these days.

Lester Jones
BSU Director

Bible Book Series

Editor:

I received my paper yesterday, and to start with I want to thank you for your continued service that you provide as I thoroughly enjoy the reading.

I am somewhat concerned though as I read a letter to the editor from Mrs. James L. Rayner of Desoto Baptist Church in Shubuta, Ms. I too teach an adult class (college and career), and I very much agree with Mrs. Rayner that the "Bible Book Series" should be continued. We are using this material in God's church at Mosselle, and I also read this lesson every week from the Baptist Record in addition to studying it from the teacher's book and commentary.

Danny R. Shows
Mosselle Memorial Baptist
Mosselle

First Amendment

Editor:

Before the Constitution of the United States could be adopted, it was essential that an amendment be included guaranteeing separation of church and state. People know that many of the citizens at that time and later were persecuted and many thrown in jail because they would not abide by the teachings of the state religion in the countries from which they came.

A few days ago it was refreshing to note that the pope of Rome stated that he believed in separation of church and state, the consequence being that a Roman Catholic priest in Massachusetts accepted the ruling and withdrew from a contest for reelection to the U. S. House of Representatives.

How good it would be if some of our Baptist and other Protestant leaders would follow that example! For instance, Dr. John H. Buchanan of Birmingham, a native of Blue Mountain, Miss., a graduate of Southern Seminary with a doctor of theology degree, and pastor of one of the leading churches in Birmingham, decided he had a chance to win a seat in Congress, resigned his pastorate, won the election, and has been in Washington 13 years.

And that is not all. According to the Associated Press, Jerry L. Falwell and another evangelist had a meeting in Virginia about two months ago and decided to oppose certain candidates

and support others. While raising money in the name of winning souls, they decided to use some of that fund to operate in the political realm. And you, the public, perhaps, noticed on television a few days ago about a noted evangelist making an appearance with a candidate for president.

States do not have any right to dominate the government and churches and church leaders do not have the right to interfere in the choice of government and who is elected.

The First Amendment and its functions are musts in our land!

Kirby Tyrone
Prentiss

Need for Tapes

Editor:

To churches and members of Winston County:

I am writing to try to locate a tape or record of my late husband, B. W. Hudson. He was pastor of South Louisville Baptist Church, serving Enon Church in the afternoon, in the years 1955-58, when he retired. WLSM came to our

church and made tapes of our choir and Bro. Hudson — also duets of Bro. Hudson and Mrs. Robinson. If anyone or church has any of these records or tapes, I will be grateful for them to contact me. I will return your copy just as soon as I can have one made from it.

Mrs. B. W. Hudson
190 Glenmary St.
Jackson, MS 39203

Uniform Series

Editor:

We still use some of the International Sunday School literature and miss the lesson in the Record. Will it be out permanently? I missed the explanation issue apparently. It was really a help to me as a teacher.

Natalie T. Fowlkes
Amory

It will return in the issue of July 10 under the authorship of Jack Glaze, chairman, Division of Religion, Mississippi College. At the same time Bobby Perry, pastor of First Church, Moss Point, will begin the Life and Work Commentary — Editor

Odle Memorial Scholarship

A Joe T. Odle Memorial Scholarship Fund is being established by gifts of individuals connected with the Baptist Record. The fund will be used, as interest begins to accrue on it, to aid ministerial students at Mississippi College. The

fund will be handled through the office of the Mississippi Baptist Foundation. While the fund is being established by individuals at the Baptist Record, there is no limitation on participation.

Book Reviews

LOVE by Helen Steiner Rice compiled by Donald T. Kauffman (Fleming H. Revell, 128 pp., \$5.95) In this collection of poetry, different kinds of love are expressed: love for God, God's love for His children, love among men and women, love of life, love for the beauties of nature. Mrs. Rice has been called "America's Poet Laureate of Inspirational Verse." Some of her works have been read on the Lawrence Welk television show. This volume on love is beautifully bound. Its pages are illustrated with drawings of flowers.

MY PERSONAL PRAYER DIARY compiled and written by Catherine Marshall and Leonard LeSourd (Chosen Books, 424 pp., \$11.95) After their marriage in 1959, Catherine Marshall and Leonard LeSourd were faced with a multitude of problems, involving children and careers. They began to have an hour of prayer and Bible study together in early morning, and recorded the experiences that came as a result. This prayer diary, similar to their own, devotes a page to each day of the year. Each page offers a Scripture to study and a thought for prayer-meditation, with space to log prayer requests and God's answers to them.

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Once We Know His Peace, We Can Live In Peace In the Same House

This is the last of a series on religious faith in marriage by R. Jack Follis. Follis is chaplain director in the department of pastoral services at East Mississippi State Hospital, Meridian.



A graduate of Sam Houston State University, he earned the master of theology, master of religious education, specialist in education and doctor of education with a major in psychology and counseling all from New Orleans Seminary. He serves on New Orleans' supplementary faculty.

He works part time as pastoral counselor for the Weems Community Mental Health Clinic in Meridian and is a member of several counseling and clinical pastoral associations.

With societal stresses on marriage and the family increasing apparently daily, the Baptist Record publishes this series with the hope that it will help to relieve some of that stress.

By R. Jack Follis

Peaceful living in our families and with our fellowman is a biblical concept. Jesus commands us through the words of the apostle Paul to: "If possible . . . live peaceably with all" (Romans 12:18).

This statement is based on the understanding that every person can have God's peace within him. In fact, inward peace that comes from knowing the Lord Jesus as personal Lord and Savior leads to peaceful relations with our mates, children, friends, and neighbors. Once we know His peace, we can live in harmony with ourselves, which frees us to live with each other in the same community, on the same street, and in the same house.

Being together in this kind of relationship has distinctive qualities. For example, we know that peace in the home does not mean absence of affliction. Pain, suffering, sickness, and other problems are part of life. Peace is there in spite of hurt.

We know that having peace does not necessarily mean the absence of tension. Strain, anxiety, and nervousness whether caused by moving up in the job, a tight schedule, or some other every day activity will always be a part of life. Peace is there with the tenseness.

We also know that peaceful cohabitation does not mean the absence of contention. Peace at any price is not really peace. It is a cop-out. Controlled anger, disagreements, and different opinions are commonplace in most families. Peace includes disputes.

Yet, a peaceful home is impossible where there is pervading hostility and distrust. When one or both partners is continually angry and untrusting peace cannot be born. Angry men and women cannot sit across the breakfast table in agreement.

Similarly, a permeating feeling of alienation and separation disrupts marital life. Emotionally estranged spouses cannot share the intimacy of sleeping in the same bed. Where there is no closeness, peace is blocked and cannot mature.

An underlying sense of hopelessness

and despair results in a miserable existence. When mates are continually dejected and sad in each other's presence, they are unable to share the pleasures of life. Peace cannot flourish in that home.

Yet, family members can live together in unison when relationship qualities that produce a favorable climate for peace are present. One quality involves goodness. Christian mates can be the kind of people who focus their lives on kindness, compassion, and concern. Not only does each spouse want these characteristics for himself but he strives to touch the same qualities in his mate. He helps her to be warm and gentle. He brings out the best in her. When these kinds of persons compose a marriage, peace is possible.

Another quality is integrity. This means that each spouse has a moral code which accentuates truthfulness, honesty, and openness. This means that each one can be trusted to tell the truth. Each will be open to his/her own feelings and the feelings of other family members. Each will be tuned in to herself/himself so that honest responses to the other is possible. Integrity in relationships invites peaceful living.

A final quality is love. If each mate knows "in his heart" that he is loved, then anything, including peaceful living, is possible. This is true because love can dissipate anger and replace it with patience. It can temper pain with longsuffering. It can take the sting out of hostility. It can bridge the gap caused by separation, and it can put hope in the midst of despair. Love and peace fit together.

Peace is the result of these qualities. Now lives can be shared. In peace, little children can experience their lives close to the earth and dream their "child" dreams of growing up. In peace, mature men and women can share their "grown-up" dreams and apply themselves toward their realization. In peace older people can have their memories. In peace, family members can live their hours of life filled with each other.

Christians who marry experience the same tensions as in other marriages. We, too, are caught in the struggle between security and insecurity. We strive to be secure in an insecure world. While absolute security is impossible, our marriages can be the kind of relationships which meets many of our security needs.

The quality of every marriage is determined to a great extent by what each mate brings to the relationship. This is precisely the point of uniqueness of Christians who marry. They can bring a viable sense of security with them when they offer themselves in marriage.

We Baptists experience our security in Jesus. We affirm that everyone who knows Christ as his/her savior will always be in a state of grace. This is possible because the Holy Spirit changes an "old person" into a "new person." Now the Christian is aware of a secure and certain presence. He brings this kind of assurance into his marriage.

Once they are married, financial security has a valid place. Yet, this has different meanings for each couple. For some it means a warm house, clothes to wear and food to eat. For others, it means three cars, fur coats and membership in the country club.

While financial security can never replace security in Christ, it is very important. We know that "what we own" has particular and deep meaning for us. We identify with our things. In our culture the ability to buy things and services places us in certain positions in the community. Thus, our financial needs are a very real part of us. To deny or ignore this aspect of our personalities is foolish and even dangerous.

Another kind of security possible in marriage is emotional security. For the woman it means a relationship

which fosters trust, honesty, and freedom. She experiences a growing sense of assurance that she will not be abandoned and left alone. She knows she can make honest mistakes and the world won't come crashing in on her. She can be free to experiment with life and grow to her maximum potential.

These marital characteristics don't just happen. These take form when her husband gives her warm hugs, gentle kisses, and loving concern. They grow when he insures that the home is secure for the night. They blossom when there is a real sense that he stands between his family and the outside world.

More importantly these kinds of feelings grow and flourish when the wife knows that her mate has her needs, wishes, and desires as major considerations in his life. Being protected, thought of and loved, she is secure.

Emotional security is just as important for the husband, but takes different forms. He also needs to build trust, honesty, and freedom. He, too, needs the feelings that come from being warmly embraced and softly touched.

In addition, he needs to know that his family is supporting him as he goes into the world of competition. He needs the kind of encouragement which communicates that it is all right for him to risk failure that may involve his entire family. He needs their admiration for what he is doing. In short, he needs for his wife to affirm his work. In a very real sense when his work is affirmed, he is affirmed. Being affirmed, and loved, he is secure.

These are only three kinds of security that can be claimed by Christians who marry. Without them marital life can be very uncertain and frustrating. With them it is enriching, enabling and fulfilling.

Charge Involves Sunday Blue Laws

HARRISBURG, Pa. (EP) — In an unusual case involving Sunday Blue Laws, a suburban mall has brought charges in Dauphin County court against a merchant-tenant who refused to participate in Sunday sales. Union Deposit Center Equities, Ltd., owner of the Union Deposit Mall, charged that Warren R. and Helen Heidelberg, owners of the Stretch and Sew Fabrics shop in the mall, violated their lease by not conforming to mall shopping hours, which included Sundays during the Christmas holiday season. A lawyer for the shop said that to force anyone to work on Sunday was an illegal restriction on the free exercise of religion.

Missionaries Continue To Work In Zimbabwe

SALISBURY, Zimbabwe (BP) — A crowd of 40,000 specially invited persons watched Prince Charles hand the scroll making Rhodesia the independent country Zimbabwe to titular President Canaan Banana, April 18.

The crowd, which cheered as the British flag was lowered and the new flag raised, included envoys of about 100 countries and two Southern Baptist missionaries, David and Linda Coleman, who worked in Salisbury.

The Colemans are among 43 Southern Baptist missionaries who continued work in Zimbabwe throughout the seven-year war for majority control of the country. A December peace treaty and election at the end of February led to granting of legal independence.

The new prime minister, Robert Mugabe, who led the largest faction of the guerrilla army, has stated in both public and private interviews that his government wants churches to continue with their work, Coleman said. "All Christians are praying that this attitude will filter through to all levels, that all intimidation will cease, and that the gospel will continue to be preached unhindered."

In anticipation of a peace settlement, missionaries there have already requested five church developers, two women's workers, an editor for the publishing house and four medical

personnel, he said.

The request for medical personnel, however, is being delayed awaiting development of plans for Sanyati Baptist Hospital. Although missionary physicians visit the hospital, no missionaries have lived on the Sanyati compound since the guerrilla murder of Southern Baptist missionary Archie G. Dunaway Jr. in 1978.

Following that incident no new missionary personnel were assigned to the country until a volunteer couple was named to work at the publishing house in November 1979. A missionary journeyman was approved recently to begin training in June.

D. O. Horne, Retired Minister, Dies In Belzoni

Dewitt Otho Horne, retired Baptist minister of Belzoni, died May 11 at Humphreys County Hospital. He was 85. Survivors are one son, William (Bill) Horne of Jackson; two daughters, Mrs. Annette Mohamed and Mrs. Carolyn Bridges of Belzoni; 12 grandchildren; four great-grandchildren; one brother; and two sisters. (His wife died July 15, 1979.)

The funeral was at First Church, Belzoni, May 14, with Billy McKay, pastor, officiating, assisted by James Scirrat and W. R. Roberts of Jackson.

Horne was graduated from College Hill High School, Lafayette County, before serving overseas in World War I. In 1924 he was graduated from Mississippi College. After he and his childhood sweetheart, Grace Jones of Burgess, were married, they enrolled in Southern Seminary, Louisville, Ky.

His first Mississippi pastorates were at Lorman and Fayette. He served Monticello Church for 23 years, until 1952. While in Monticello he was also pastor at Bassfield (Jefferson Davis); Carmel (Lawrence); and Fair River (Lincoln). From 1952 until retirement, he was involved in associational missions as director of missions for Amite-Wilkinson, Tallahatchie, and Humphreys counties.

For the past several years he had annually raised a large garden on the slopes of the Belzoni bayou. His neighbors, friends, children, and grandchildren benefited from his garden, even through the summer of 1979.

Those who knew him best knew him to be "a humble and gentle man, and one with the spirit of Christ shining through his every word and action. He was a true Bible scholar and many a Sunday School class and congregation has been blessed by his teachings and ministries."

Plan Unveiled To Extend SBC Seminary Education

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP) — Plans for a "bold new dimension" in theological education were announced in a joint statement by presidents of the six Southern Baptist seminaries.

Speaking on behalf of the seminary presidents, Milton Ferguson, president of Midwestern Seminary and chairman of the president's group, outlined a new "division of extended studies."

He said it was created to meet the needs for theological training in pioneer (newer work) areas of the convention and in response to a request by the SBC, in its 1979 meeting in Houston, to study expansion of seminary education into the northeastern, north central, western and northwestern portions of the U.S.

The new division, a joint effort of the seminaries, will include a seminary satellite department to provide degree-level credit work in off-campus programs beginning in the fall of 1981.

In the meantime, Roy L. Honeycutt, Jr., provost of Southern Seminary, will coordinate some initial off-campus courses in cooperation with the

academic officers of the other seminaries.

The division of extended studies will also include reorganization of the seminaries' current Seminary Extension Department (SED) into a seminary extension center department and a seminary independent study department. These two departments will continue and expand work now offered by SED through extension centers and home study. SED currently has about 10,500 students and 381 centers across the nation.

Raymond M. Rigdon, current SED director, will direct the division of extended studies, with offices at the Southern Baptist Convention Building, 460 James Robertson Parkway, Nashville, Tenn. 37219.

The division resulted from a survey of the needs in the northeast, north central, west and northwest conducted from June 1979 to January 1980, for the seminaries by Harold Graves, president emeritus of Golden Gate Seminary.

"The seminary presidents and deans are vitally interested in provid-

ing the resources and programs required to undergird Bold Mission Thrust among Southern Baptists, not only in the so-called pioneer areas but throughout the country and the world," Ferguson said.

Ferguson said the new structure reflects the commitment of the seminaries to provide training for effective leaders in and through the churches.

SBC . . .

(Continued from page 1) operating and capital needs budgets of the Southern Baptist Convention would be \$16 million higher than it is. For the Foreign Mission Board, that increase would mean an additional \$7.4 million.

(Jameson is BP feature editor)

Spring being a tough act to follow, God created June. — Al Bernstein

You can't get rid of what is part of you, even if you throw it away. — Goethe

Midwestern Initiates Music Program Plans

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (BP) — Trustees of Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary initiated plans to begin a church music program, approved a record budget and elected new officers during their annual meeting on the seminary campus.

The music program, scheduled to begin during the fall of 1981 if additional funding is secured, would become a part of the religious education curriculum. Seminary President Milton Ferguson described the program as a "local church music ministry."

"The need in middle America is to train pastors with a sensitivity to the need for music ministry in the local church, to see music as an integral part of education and worship in the church and indispensable to healthy church growth," Ferguson said.

Paul Batson, pastor of the First Baptist Church in Marion, S. C., was elected president of the board of trustees.

Trustees approved a record \$1,986,000 budget for 1980-81, a nine percent increase from the current year. Included are increases for faculty and staff ranging from 7.5 percent to 9.5 percent.

Annie Armstrong Tops The Five Million Mark

(Continued from page 1)

Appointed as missionaries were Graciela Salazar of Fresno, Calif., and Tom and Janet Williams of Fort Worth, Texas.

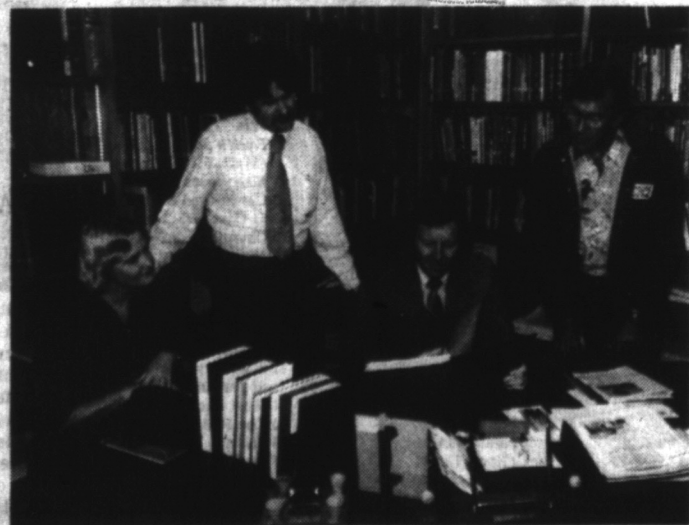
Salazar, who will live in Fresno, will direct migrant missions. She has been an editorial assistant and state Woman's Missionary Union president in Alabama, Texas and California.

The Williams couple will serve in Fort Worth. He will direct the Good Will Center for Tarrant Baptist Association. He is a graduate of Samford University and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. Since 1977, he has been a youth minister, chaplain and group worker in Texas.

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Copiah Holds First-Time Spring Session

Copiah Association met on May 1 at Highland Church, Crystal Springs for the first time in a spring session. Eighteen churches were represented.

Officers elected for 1980-81 are: James F. Griffith, moderator; H. B. McNeil, vice moderator; George F. Page, clerk; Ragan Walters, treasurer; Maurice Patrick, Sunday School director; Grady Jones, Jr., Church Training director; Everett Thornton, Brotherhood director; Mrs. Ken Stringer, WMU director; James Beasley, music director; Stanley Weatherford, pastor-youth advisor.

Roger Stacy delivered the message. Special music was presented by Karen DuBose and Susie Raney, Joan Ham-mack and Penny Stacy, and the Crystal Belles from First, Crystal Springs.



West Ripley Remodels Sanctuary

West Ripley Church, Ripley, has remodeled its sanctuary — painted the ceiling, paneled the walls, reworked the baptistry window, rewired the lighting, installed colored glass windows, and installed new carpet. The members have dedicated the renovated sanctuary, debt free. Building Committee members for remodeling were left to right, front, Johnny O'Leary; Margaret Renfrow; Pat Strickland; and back row, Bill Baker, pastor; Eddie Norton, chairman; Elton Wilbanks; and Gerald Taylor.

Homecomings

West Ripley Church, Ripley, will observe homecoming day Sunday, June 1. After Sunday School, beginning at 10, Billy W. Baker, pastor, will preach for the 11 a.m. service. The church will serve dinner on the ground. Song service will begin at 1:30 p.m. Guests for it will be the Believers' Quartet of Eupora.

Hillcrest, Lucedale: May 25-30; dinner on the grounds on Sunday, May 25; Terry Runnels of Mendenhall, evangelist; W. A. McWilliams, pastor.

Friendship Church, Route 2, Brookhaven, will have homecoming on May 25.

Sunday school will begin at 10, with morning worship at 11. There will be an old-fashioned dinner on the ground at noon, followed by an afternoon service.

Speaker for the morning service will be Truett Smith, a young man who grew up in the Friendship community and is a former member of the church. Smith is now pastor of Bradmoore Church, Largo, Fla.

The pastor is Wiley Reid.

Rock Hill Church, near Brandon will observe homecoming day on Sunday, May 25. George Ritchey, Alexandria, La., former pastor of the church, will preach. Phillip McElhenney, pastor, states that dinner will be served on the grounds.

New Hope Church, Franklin County, will have homecoming day on May 25. Dan Caldwell, pastor, will deliver the morning message. Business meeting will be held at 10:45. All offerings for the day will be given to the cemetery fund.

An afternoon service will feature Abby Gay and Ken Stephens, along with Aaron Gillis of Brookhaven. Lunch will be served at the church. Former pastors have a special invitation.

Arlington Church in Lincoln County will observe homecoming Sunday, May 25.

Services will begin with Sunday School at 10 a.m. At the 11 a.m. service Ray Cowart, a former pastor, will be speaker.

Lunch will be served on the church grounds. Joe Jackson is supply pastor.

Temple Church, Jackson, will have Homecoming, May 25. H. A. Herrington, a former pastor, Louisville, will bring the 11 a.m. message. Dinner on the ground will be served. There will be a sing-a-long in the afternoon with guest singers.

Clarke College BYW Honors Brides-To-Be

Clarke College BYW on April 24 honored the young women who are getting married during the summer. They held a white Bible ceremony at the home of the Phil Dunaways.

A friend of each bride-to-be had a part in the program, to present a white Bible.

Mrs. Jacqueline Compere was in charge of the girls' lighting the candles and spoke on the topic, "A Christian Home."

A salad meal was provided by the faculty and staff from Clarke College.

Those taking part were Nadine Shieves, Meridian; Denise Bryant, Pelahatchie; Janice Snow, Meridian; Mary Meeks, Hound, Louisiana; Mrs. Jacqueline Compere, Newton; Stacey Smith, Newberry, Florida; Cheryl Everett, Lake; Cindy Windham, Newberry, Florida; and Elaine Jones, Meridian.

BIBLE PUZZLE ANSWERS

G O D M O N S O A T N
A B E S N O W U S E E
D O E E T A K E N T
S E A P L E N K E S
L I B A M A U N D E R
A D I T E G O S V S I
M I G H T E U R E T C
P E E N I R E V
W O R S H I P P E R
H A T E A T O A R A
E V I L T O P S U N I
B E L L A E P E E L E D

"Howbeit the most high dwelleth not in temples made with hands" (Acts 7:48).

Just For The Record . . .

Day Star, Rankin County, will celebrate moving into its new church with a special service "Upon This Rock" at 11 a.m., June 1. The Day Star Church, on Gunter Road, was constituted Dec. 16, 1979, and now has a membership of 138.

A choir has recently been organized under the leadership of Mrs. Earline Whinnery.

The Mississippi Baptist Convention purchased the five-acre church site and provided the mobile chapel. Dale Holloway is pastor.

Crossgates Church, Brandon, honored its pastor, Gary Berry, May 4, with "Pastor Appreciation Day." Berry has been pastor there for one year.

Berry was presented a Certificate of Appreciation, along with a four-day trip for his family to Walt Disney World, and a love offering. Six members of the church expressed their love and appreciation, from various church programs.

Berry, his wife, Janet, and his parents (Mr. and Mrs. Bill Berry) were presented corsages and boutonnières.

The theme, WE LOVE YOU, BRO. GARY, was displayed on red, white and blue banners. The congregation celebrated with a covered dish lunch.

Calhoun Will Build In California

The summer mission project of Calhoun Association was presented at the spring associational meeting on April 21 by the Mission Action Committee, and it was adopted.

The tentative dates are August 1-8, and the project is helping construct a church at Winton, Calif. (about 40 miles from Escalon where the group went last year).

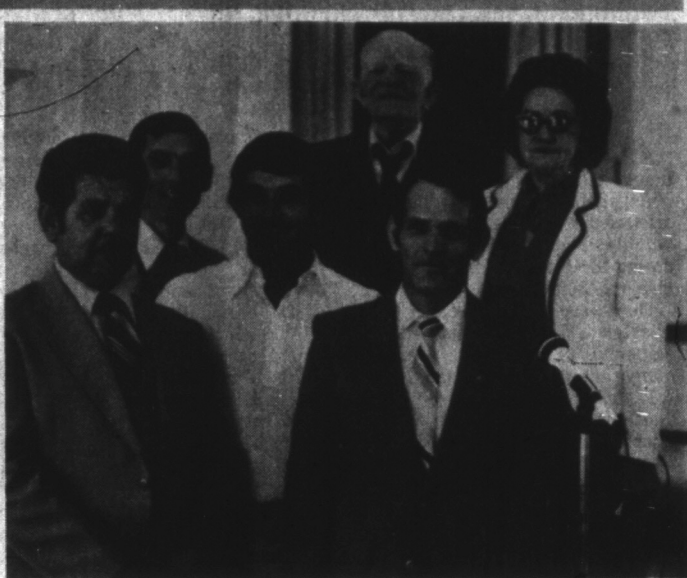
Midwestern Dean's Wife Dies May 2

KANSAS CITY, MO. (BP) — Helen Elizabeth Seats, former missionary to Nigeria, died May 2 after an extensive illness.

Mrs. Seats was the wife of Lavell Seats, professor of missions, dean of students and registrar at Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary at Kansas City.

The Seats were appointed as missionaries in 1941 and served until ill health forced them to return in 1958. At that time Seats began teaching as part of the original faculty at Midwestern.

Mrs. Seats, 65, is survived by her husband; one son, Paige of Houston; and a granddaughter.



AT FIRST CHURCH, LOUISE's second annual homecoming day May 4. The Sextette, composed of the pastor and five of the church members, presented special music. Left to right are Billy Robinson, Bill McClellan, pastor, Harold Peebles, Floyd Johnson, Keith McIntyre, and Mrs. Floyd Johnson. Mrs. Ruby Sanders read the church history. The pastor preached on the topic, "The Certainty of Home-Going."

The church is entering a building program that will enlarge the present fellowship hall and renovate the education building. McClellan, who has been pastor at First, Louise, for three years, was graduated from Mid-America Seminary, Memphis, on May 15.



CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE ate outdoors on homecoming day May 4 at First, LOUISE, while adults filled all the spaces at the indoor tables.

Revival Dates

Fannin Church, (Rankin): May 25-30; services at 11 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. on Sunday; 7:30 each night Mon.-Fri.; Fred Tarpley, director of missions, Hinds County, evangelist; Jim Lott, minister of music at First Church, Pearl, leading the singing; Bobbie Col-lum, pianist; Carl E. Talbert, pastor.

Trinity, Petal: May 25-30; Sunday at 11 a.m. and 2 p.m., and dinner on the ground; each night at 7:30; Colbert and Joyce Craft, Jasper, Fla., evangelists; Don Strickland, pastor.

The curse of heaven rests upon the wealth of a miser. — Henry Mayhew

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Vandalism In Jerusalem Attributed To Fanatics

JERUSALEM, Israel — Jewish neighbors of Baptist House in west Jerusalem have expressed their sorrow over incidents of vandalism there during recent months. One even made a sizeable donation to help with repairs. Baptists feel that the damage has been done by a small group of extremists among the orthodox Jews, perhaps "teen-age hooligans of foreign import."

Baptist House is used as a Sunday School and activities building for the congregation of the West Jerusalem Baptist Church and has served as the official headquarters of the Israel Baptist Mission for many years. Once a week a group of Jewish believers holds Bible study and worship services there.

Other Christian churches, book stores, and institutions in west Jerusalem have also been damaged, and clerks and clergymen have been cursed and spat upon. The missionary manager of the Baptist Book Store in east Jerusalem reports, however, there have been no similar incidents in his area of the city, which is predominantly Arab populated.

Police are investigating the case, and the mayor of Jerusalem has promised to pay for needed repairs as in all past incidents. Several arrests have been made. Prime Minister Begin has assured representatives of the Christian community that vandalism against churches "will not be tolerated." (EBPS)



Left to right from Hickory Flat are, front row — D. D. Smith, Paula Stewart, Lisa Bain; second row — Amelia Gadd, Kristel Bradley, Angela Morris, Sue Harrington; back row — Don Reed, Greg Moffitt, Wade Holland, Jeff Beasley.

Hickory Flat Scores Highest

Hickory Flat young people won the first place trophy in the Rebel Round-up on the Ole Miss campus April 19, sponsored by the university BSU.

Points were awarded the winning teams in games fashioned after the old television series, "Almost Anything Goes." The Hickory Flat group scored 89 points. Yazoo City's team won second place, with 84 points; Coldwater placed third, with 79 points.

Also the BSU held a youth rally, dur-

ing which outstanding athletes and students spoke, and the BSU Ensemble and drama team provided entertainment.

Mrs. Vera Perkins of the Youth Activities Committee, Hickory Flat, stated, "We feel that this set the scene for the most successful youth-led weekend revival our church has ever experienced. We are still seeing results of this revival and expect to continue to do so for a long time."

'Broker' Evangelism

"Time Is Shrinking, The Need Is Growing"

By Dan Martin

ATLANTA (BP) — More than 200 religious educators and "brokers" of evangelism from across the nation discussed recruiting and training of volunteers in missions evangelism during three days of intensive meetings in Atlanta.

They were part of "scaled down" Mission U.S. '80s, cancelled after economic uncertainties prevented many persons from attending.

The meetings, sponsored by the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board, centered on the needs of the nation and the increased importance of volunteers to accomplish the Bold Mission Thrust goals to "evangelize and congregationalize" the nation and the world by the year 2000 AD.

"Bold Mission Thrust is more than a slogan," Robert E. Bingham, director of the board's services section, told educators. "It's a quality of life, and you have to either accept it or reject it."

Ken Lyle, a former home missionary and now pastor of Atlanta's Tabernacle Baptist Church, told the participants: "It's a tremendous task we have set before us. We (Southern Baptists) have proclaimed that in 20 years, we're going to reach the world. The time is shrinking, shrinking, shrinking and the need is growing, growing, growing."

Lyle added that if the task is to be completed, Southern Baptists must keep from being "caught in the mud of mechanical religiosity," and be willing to go, even to be martyrs, if necessary.

Ron Lewis, a church growth specialist with the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board, told participants: "We must get our priorities straight. There are people who spend \$400 on a mission project and \$2,700 to fix the icemaker in the fellowship hall."

He chided Southern Baptists for a "non-growth mentality. In 1947 when the U.S. population was 143 million, we baptized 334,000. In 1978, when the population had grown to 218 million, we baptized only 336,000."

He called on denominational leaders to "train people how to engage in guerrilla warfare against the world and how to relate to people who are different."

Other speakers, such as Reid Hardin and C. B. Hogue of the Home Mission

Board's evangelism section, predicted significant advances in reaching the nation and the world during the 1980s, which Hardin called the "decade of commitment."

Hardin, who heads the evangelism support department, called on evangelism leaders to help recruit 1,000 "brokers" of evangelism by 1981. "A broker is an agent who buys or sells for another on a commission basis without having title to the property," he said. "The property we have is the good news, the gospel" of Jesus Christ.

Hogue, director of the evangelism section, urged leaders to involve volunteers and laypersons more in the effort. "We must become more than a force of hired mercenaries and become one of those conscripted by commitment."

Lon Day, associated with the Day Companies of Atlanta, the nation's sixth largest of lodging chains, called on laypersons to finance and to do the work of evangelism and missions.

"God has given every person a

ministry, although it's not necessarily the pastorate," he said. "Ninety-nine percent of the people in church are ministers; only one percent are pastors."

Both the religious educators and evangelism leaders were called on to recruit and train volunteers for the work of evangelism, ministry and missions.

As the evangelism section concluded, participants were asked to make a commitment to "broker" evangelism by recruiting others as witnesses and by telling the good news themselves.

(Martin is HMB news editor.)

Peking (EP) — The largest Christian congregations since the Cultural Revolution of the mid-1960s packed the Catholic cathedrals in Peking and Shanghai for Easter Sunday Mass. Reuter reported from Peking recently. Travelers arriving from Shanghai said the city's cathedral was reopened specially for the Easter services.

Blue Mountain Graduate Is First

"Woman Priest" In Puglia, Italy

(Note: Marylu Moore received the B. A. degree from Blue Mountain College, Blue Mountain, Ms., in 1958, and graduated from Carver School, Louisville, Ky. in 1960. The Foreign Mission Board appointed her as a missionary in 1963.)

PUGLIA, Italy — "The first woman priest of Puglia is a gentle American signorina" was the headline for a long feature article in the popular newspaper of southern Italy, *La Gazzetta del Mezzogiorno*. In somewhat smaller type the editor commented, "Naturally, she is a Protestant pastor."

Marylu Moore, daughter of Dewey and Alice Moore, longtime Southern Baptist missionaries to Italy, is the subject of the article by a woman journalist quite interested in the growing

prominence of women in today's world.

Miss Moore was called as a co-pastor along with Pastor Bruno Colombo of the twin churches of Gravina and Altamura in Puglia. Although born in Washington, D. C. in 1937, she has lived most of her life in Italy.

When the journalist asked Miss Moore when she decided "to join the priesthood," Pastor Moore answered, "I must say first that for us all believers are priests. I decided to give my life to Christ, that is, to give myself for fulltime religious service while in the university."

"How did the church react to the idea of having a woman pastor?" the journalist asked.

"Very well, because in our church

there is no inequality of the sexes. At first, some of the deacons wanted to make certain that I was adequately educated and qualified for the pastorate. When they were sure of that, it was all right with them."

Then the journalist described some of the work of a pastor: preaching the gospel, leading the congregation in prayer, and guiding the service of the Lord's Supper. She noted that in this kind of church the pastor is not a member of a privileged class or distinguished by title or manner of dress. The article concluded with a description of Marylu Moore's churches, their history and ministry, especially their work with immigrants and their concern for women, who the journalists felt had been long oppressed in this region. (EBPS)

Lebanon Takes Note Of Ray's 20th Year

Lebanon Association in spring meeting at Calvary Church on April 21 adopted a resolution of appreciation

concerning Joel Ray's 20th anniversary as director of missions for the association. The association also presented to Ray and his wife a monetary love gift.

In part, the resolution stated:

"Joel Dillard Ray with his capable wife, Betty Jo, began his ministry as director of missions of Lebanon Baptist Association June 1, 1960. These 20 years have been fruitful and profitable in kingdom growth and development."

"Lebanon Baptist Association expresses appreciation for these years of faithful ministry; we pledge our continued support of his leadership; and we pledge that we will witness and work diligently so that our reports to the association this fall will reveal the best possible records for our gratitude for our director."

In one important respect a man is fortunate in being poor: His responsibility to God is so much less.



DeSoto GAs Meet Missionaries

CARRIAGE HILLS CHURCH, SOUTHAVEN, was host for DeSoto Association's GA Missionary Day. Mr. and Mrs. Roy McGlamery, former missionaries to Gaza; Judy Pennington, summer missionary in Michigan; and Bob and Thelma Beaty, missionaries to Zimbabwe-Rhodesia, were the speakers. Pictured are the Beatys with some of the GAs. Brenda Mealer, at right, is GA leader at First Church, Horn Lake.

American Motors Offers Discount To Clergymen Buying Cars

CINCINNATI (EP) — Among the hustles for Holy Land tours, Bibles and Christian schools, American Motors Corp. (AMC) has begun advertising special allowances for clergy. AMC was looking for "people who are getting killed by inflation," Harry Scharf, director of fleet operations, said, "and who's more underpaid than the clergy?"

Scharf, in his Southfield, Mich., office, said the allowance is a longstanding factory policy. What is new is advertising it. Ads in evangelical publications promote \$100 allowances on new cars for "ordained clergy of recognized faiths," or \$150 including air conditioning.

Clergy seeking the discount must affirm they will use the vehicle "approximately 50% or more of the time in ecclesiastical duties. . . . Officials of General Motors, Ford and Chrysler said their firms have no similar factory allowances for clergy."

Devotional Peaceful Co-Existence

By Wayne Long, Pastor
First, Lambert
Matthew 6:24

A visitor at a zoo was surprised to see a lion and a lamb in the same cage. He asked the attendant if they got along all right. The attendant replied, "Most of the time, but now and again we have to put in a new lamb."

Is this the story of your Christian life? Are you continuously trying to let both Christ and Satan live in your heart at the same time? Doing this is as dangerous as trying to let a lion and a lamb live in the same cage. We know that Christ and Satan are directly opposite and always oppose each other. Yet we try to compromise and let each have his way in our lives.

Jesus once said, "No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will hold to one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon" (Matthew 6:24 NAS).

In what ways do you compromise your faith? Do you think you can cover sin by attending church? Do you think you can pay for a sin by doing something good to make up for it? Do you compromise by drinking alcohol just to be sociable? Do you cheat in school just a little? Do you try to be Christian as long as it doesn't interfere with "having fun"? Are you trying to deceive God as well as others in a life of compromise? Jesus said that we simply cannot serve two different masters at the same time. Certainly all of us would like a more thrilling experience with Christ daily! We can only have this by giving in totally to Christ. We must empty our hearts and our lives of everything. Then, only when we have done that, can Christ come to us fully. We often ask the Holy Spirit to fill us. The Holy Spirit cannot fill us when we are already full of something else. Let us empty ourselves of everything and be filled with the Holy Spirit!



Long

Life and Work Lesson

By Tommy Tutor, Pastor,
First, Benton, Ark.

Exodus 20:8-10a; Deuteronomy 5:1-3; Mark 9:33-37

I. Rest Brings Refreshment From Labor (Exodus 20:8-10a)

An old adage says, "All work and no play makes Jack a dull boy." Man is commanded by his creator to work, "Six days shalt thou labor . . ."; but, preceding this verse is the admonition, "Remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy." Time for rest, recreation, fellowship and worship is needed. Joy and excitement can be experienced from the refreshed life. God intended that we have some leisure time. All human beings need this to develop meaningful relationships outside work.

Wayne Oates says, "In the Ten Commandments, we are told not to be covetous, but tradition approves all forms of competition. The ambiguous condition of the workaholic is that he works hard to get the things and the place in society that other men envy. At the same time he isolates himself from the very people whose approval he thinks he can get by outdoing them. The salty brine of competition is exciting to swim in, cooling the skin as one revels in it, but does not satisfy the thirst for companionship and communion with others."

Spiritual and physical rewards come from remembering the Sabbath day. By the making of this day holy we recognize God as giver of all time, and we make the best use of our work time by bringing new strength and freshness of mind to our daily labor. Even the animals were to profit from this day of rest. This commandment expresses compassion and kindness for both man and animal.

II. Life Has Higher Purpose Than Just Labor (Deuteronomy 5:1-3)

The word "remember" has a whole world within it. The world of the past. Memory, like all other faculties, may either help or hinder us. As is the man so will be his remembrance. The tastes which rule his present will determine the

things that he likes best to think about in the past.

Therefore, the attitude which cares, finds its expression in conduct. This is supported with a positive, forward look. Obedience looks toward the future, this time, instead of the past. The issues in this passage involve life itself, growth, and possession. Attainment of those recognized values involves God's willed intention, which is shown here by references to the patriarchal promise, and Israel's readiness to render allegiance in worship to the Lord above.

Memory for the Israelites was that God has been providentially leading in all parts of life. The way looks back on the road through the wilderness. Remembering does not involve only the pleasant and profitable. The most bitter and difficult experiences often produce the most productive memories. God humbled Israel — but for a purpose.

God is seeking to bring the Israelites into and keep them in a right state of mind towards Him — a state of humble dependence, submissive obedience, and hopeful trust. For this to be realized one must know that a higher purpose exists for life than simply the physical and manual labor of life.

III. Pressure From Compulsive Competition (Mark 9:33-34)

There is something heart-breaking in the thought of Jesus going towards a cross and His disciples arguing about who would be greatest. Yet in their heart of hearts they knew they were wrong. When Jesus asked them what they had been arguing about they had nothing to say.

The disciples still saw the coming kingdom as a political one, and they wanted a place of honor in it. They also still judged greatness by world standard. They thought in terms that greatness placed one over others. This gave rule and authority over others. This is opposite to what Jesus taught. The result of this competition was bringing pressure among the disciples.

These disciples should have remembered that all deeds are done, all words are spoken in God's presence. God keep us from the words and deeds which we would

Life Is More Than Work

be ashamed if He should hear and see.

IV. The Way To True Greatness (Mark 9:35-37)

Jesus took an object lesson and taught His disciples about true greatness. Human greatness involves things like character, spirit, and outlook on life. Where could one better find an honest, simple, and trusting spirit than that of a child? These characteristics of the child, humility, simplicity, trustfulness, and honesty are traits of true greatness. Further, the child symbolized the least on earth. If one can with open arms and heart receive such a one, Jesus is noting that this one is great. Willingness to serve and love the least is evidence of true greatness.

Rule and authority is the world's way to greatness, but the kingdom's way is love and service. Jesus does not condemn the disciples for the desire for greatness, but He simply corrects their thinking about it.

Jesus notes that in receiving such a child means that one is also receiving both Him and the Father. To see and love the divine beauty that dwells in the spirit of a child is to see and love the divine beauty of Jesus himself; and to receive Him is not an act whose meaning ends in itself. It is to see and love the divine beauty of the living God who sent Him.

The disciples learned a new concept about how to become great. Jesus demonstrated His teaching by taking a child into His arms. The disciples' attitude before was to scold Jesus for wasting time with children, but now Christ is showing that life has higher ideals. Care should be given not to lose these by substituting work, labor, or the world's standard of greatness.

The spirit of competition in the world today makes strong demands, but the wise Christian will know that investing life in love and service is more important than winning. Woodrow Wilson once said, "I had rather lose and ultimately win, than to temporarily win and ultimately lose." The Christian life should give care to love, service, and ministry and leave the winning or losing up to God.

Bible Book Series

By J. Roy McComb
Pastor, First, Columbia
Numbers 22:2-25:18

The children of Israel have at length finished their wanderings in the wilderness. Now they are encamped in the plains of Moab near Jordan.

I. Balak's Appeal To Balaam (Numbers 22:2-4) This passage introduces two remarkable men. One was Balak, the king over the Moabites and the other is Balaam, who is pronounced a prophet. Balak is very fearful of the children of Israel camped near the river Jordan. He does not feel that his army is powerful enough to deal with this horde of people waiting on the banks of the Jordan. Out of his fear he begins to seek for another solution. He sends a message to Balaam, the son of Beor, at Pethor. He explains the situation and instructs the messengers to offer Balaam a fee if he will curse the children of Israel so that the Moabites may defeat them.

So, the elders of Moab and the elders of Midian depart with the fees that Balak is offering Balaam if he will only curse the Israelites. When they reach Balaam they explain to him what their mission is. He instructs them that they

should wait while he brings this word to the Lord. Now, Balaam goes to God with the request of Balak. God's word to Balaam is he shall not curse the people for they have already been blessed of God. Balaam goes the next morning and explains the situation to the messengers from Balak. Balaam refuses to go with the messengers to meet with Balak.

Balak was so fearful that he could not allow the issue to drop. He sends more important princes and larger numbers of them to Balaam. He offers him much. Balaam again says he cannot go because God has said no. However, he decides to take the issue to the Lord again. He instructs the messengers to wait until the morning. God's will had already been made known to Balaam. Nevertheless, he continues to press God for his own greedy wishes. Finally it appears that the Lord does give him permission to go. Yet, it is obvious this is not God's will, only his permission. God is not pleased with Balaam's continued attempt to get in on the reward that Balak obviously offers him. These verses seem to clearly indicate that God knew what was in Balaam's heart.

Balaam starts out to meet with the men. Along the way an angel appears standing in the road with a drawn sword in his hand. The donkey on which Balaam was riding turned aside, for the donkey had seen the angel. Balaam is very angry with his donkey and he begins to beat the donkey. Then the angel of the Lord moves to a narrow place in the road where the donkey will be unable to pass either to the left or the right. The donkey stops when he sees the angel. The anger of Balaam is again kindled against the donkey. This leads us to the famous talking donkey section. It seems to me that one might conclude that in some cases a horse has more sense than a man. The animal speaks to his master, Balaam. Then God opens Balaam's eyes and he sees the angel of the Lord. The angel of the Lord gives Balaam permission to continue on but warns him again that he is only to speak what God gives him to speak. Again, this seems clearly to indicate that God knew the subtle evil lurking in the heart of Balaam.

When Balaam arrives at the place where he will meet Balak, Balak is concerned that Balaam did not come

the first time he sent for him. Then Balaam says to him that he has come but he has come to speak only the words that God puts into his mouth.

II. God's Prophecy Through Balaam (Numbers 22:41-24:25) — On the day following the meeting of Balak and Balaam, Balak brings Balaam to the spot near where the children of Israel are camped. This section of scripture comprises four blessings God pronounces through Balaam upon the children of Israel:

God's Word Of Promise

The word which came to Balaam focused on a vast people dwelling alone in the midst of the land. This reminds us of the multitude envisioned in the promise made the Abraham in Genesis 12:2. So Balaam's first oracle was related to the ancient promise of God to the children of Israel. This great promise of God that they would receive a land and become like the sands of the sea had been the vision of Israel throughout these many years.

God's Word Of Faithfulness

Obviously, Balak was dissatisfied with this pronouncement. He asked Balaam to change the place of his sacrifice and meeting with God. He took

him to the field of Zophim at the top of Pisgah. There they built altars and made sacrifices. Balaam then went to meet God. Balaam took up a discourse and began to pronounce the blessings of God again on Israel. The central focus of the oracle pronounced by Balaam is that the faithfulness of God is never ending.

God's Word Of Fulfillment

The unique aspect of this third oracle is the fact that no longer did Balaam consult omens. Rather, the Spirit of God came upon Balaam to prompt the third oracle. It consisted primarily of a picture of Israel encamped in the valley. This oracle pronounced by Balaam establishes the victory of the children of Israel. They will, indeed, overcome their adversaries. They will, indeed, prosper. God is faithful to the fulfillment of his promises. The oracle ends perhaps with God seeking to speak clearly to Balaam himself.

God's Word For The Future

The fourth oracle comes without sacrifices. This is an integration of Balaam's response to Balak. Balaam makes four self-affirmations in this

oracle. He is a person whose eyes are open, who hears the words of God, who knows the knowledge of God, and who sees the vision of the Almighty. His oracle states clearly that Israel has a tremendous future. Israel will not be dominated by the Moabites. The family of Jacob shall have dominion. It would appear to this writer that this oracle has far greater dimension than just the historical. Undoubtedly, it is a forecast of the coming of the Lord Jesus Christ.

III. The Seduction Of The Israelites (Numbers 25:1-18). Although Balaam was unable to curse the children of Israel, Satan had another avenue to them. These verses tell us of the shameful and disgraceful fall of Israel into sin. The army of Moab could not attack them and defeat them. The prophet of God could not curse them, but had to bless them. The external forces could not destroy them. However, the internal desires of lust and selfishness and sin like a termite could destroy Israel.

The judgment of God is certain upon willful sin. There is no staying the hand of God without repentance.